

## ELECTION/DISSECTION

Pandering Awareness



March 6th, 2013 ■ Issue No. 23 ■ Volume 103

# THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## Arts & Culture

# IT'S ALIVE!



CHENLEI ZHANG

## Zero emission Eco-Car revs up

Jennifer Polack  
NEWS STAFF • @JENPOLACK

The U of A's recently unveiled eco-car may not be a Ferrari, but what it lacks in horsepower it makes up for in innovation.

Project manager Matthew Sponiar teamed up with fellow students Peter Kos, Sahil Shah and Anuraag Gupta to reveal their second-generation eco-car for public scrutiny last Thursday and Friday in ETLC.

The car itself is a zero-emission, hydrogen fuel cell engine featuring a sustainable mechanical design to exemplify the importance of sustainability in vehicle use and production. Most of the materials used are locally obtained in order to showcase Alberta's industrial potential to manufacture an economic, environmentally-friendly vehicle.

Despite being grounded in Engineering, the project welcomed participants from multiple faculties.

"Our goal right from the start was to keep it very interdisciplinary," Sponiar said.

"We've been trying to get involved in local events and conferences and bring the vehicle as a showcase."

Since the original 2010 prototype vehicle, the eco-car has undergone a number of major facelifts.

"On the previous generation, it was very much if something goes wrong the car would safely shut down, but the driver (was) not really aware of what the problem was," Sponiar explained.

"Now, we have a much more integrated sensor system on the vehicle, so you'll ... be able to monitor the data while the driver is driving."

PLEASE SEE **ECO-CAR** • PAGE 9



SUPPLIED

## THEATRE PREVIEW

## First campus musical comes to life in *Young Frankenstein*

Alana Willerton  
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • @ALANAWILLERTON

With the curtain about to rise on the University of Alberta's inaugural campus musical, more than a few people are waiting with bated breath to see if it will live up to the year-long hype.

A project spurred by current Students' Union VP (Student Life) Saadiq Sumar, the idea of a campus musical open to any student on campus has been in the works since almost the beginning of the Fall semester, and has had fans and critics of the idea talking about its viability ever since. But thanks to plenty of hard work on the part of the organizers and cast members, a production of *Young Frankenstein* will officially act as the first-ever campus musical.

Preparations for the musical began in November, and saw 50 people audition for the 29 roles in the production. Those who weren't cast were encouraged to stay involved by taking on other roles in the show, such as helping with costumes or props.

The cast will have been rehearsing for two months by the time opening night takes place, and director Luay Eljamal is eager for the world to see the fruits of their labour.

"I think we have a really strong arts (presence) at the U of A, and it's good to show that off," Eljamal says. "When

I first moved here, I was surprised to hear that there wasn't a campus musical. There are always those of us who want to get involved in stuff like this. It's a good way to meet people (and) to shed the wallflower in you when you first come to university."

This musical in particular has the power to draw any student out of their shell, as it mixes a farcical, funny attitude, musical theatre dance styles like jazz and tap and pop culture references all into one show. This production of *Young Frankenstein* is a re-imagined take on director Mel Brooks' film of the same name from the '70s. While most are familiar with the story of Dr. Frankenstein who brought a monster to life, *Young Frankenstein* focuses on his grandson, Dr. Frederick Frankenstein. Unimpressed and embarrassed by his grandfather's legacy, Frankenstein finds out he has inherited the family property in Transylvania and is forced to go visit. Once there, he begins to gain a new appreciation for this grandfather's work, and begins to play with the idea of creating a monster himself.

Eljamal was one of the people who selected *Young Frankenstein* as the

musical of choice, and he says he was drawn to the humorous way the story conveys some important messages.

"It's a very identity-based show," he explains. "One of the reasons we picked it is because it suits the whole 'born this way' movement, where everyone's like, 'Embrace yourself.' I feel like there's this mentality now that the play has a subtle undertone that supports that movement."

Of course, as with any new initiative, the campus musical has had its share of bumps in the road on the way to opening night. After deciding to add an optional dinner theatre element to the Friday and Saturday night shows, the production was forced to take place in Dinwoodie Lounge rather than a space more suited for performances such as the Myer Horowitz Theatre. It's made preparations a bit more difficult, but they hope the added appeal of a dinner theatre will make it worth it. The dinner in question will feature a buffet meal made by L'Express, and starts an hour before the show.

PLEASE SEE **FRANKENSTEIN** • PAGE 24

"This reading week I lived my one-man bukkake fantasy."

#3LF  
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THE

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colophon

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# Residence, student life focus of SUBstage

Jennier Polack  
NEWS STAFF • @JENPOLACK

The first of two SUBstage forums kicked off last Thursday with discussion about residence security, tuition costs and the supposed dangers of Grant MacEwan University.

Presidential candidates Petros Kusmu, Saadiq Sumar and joke candidate Horse with a Gun, along with uncontested candidates Adam Woods for Vice-President (External) and Dustin Chelen for Vice-President (Academic), presented their platforms and answered questions.

Vying for his second term as VP (Academic), Chelen elaborated on the initiatives he's looking to implement next year.

"I think (running again) gives me an opportunity to solve some bigger problems, in particular cheaper textbooks, better professors and a non-bureaucratic university," he said.

VP (External) candidate Adam Woods also outlined his goals, including mental health, student employment and addressing the ever-present issue of mandatory non-instructional fees.

Presidential candidate Sumar asked his opponents about plans to increase residence safety, particularly in HUB in the wake of the June 2012 shooting.

Kusmu acknowledged the potential dangers of HUB Mall and highlighted the importance of supporting residence administration.

"We have to make sure that we're properly supporting our residences," He said.

"Students are endangered. There have been sexual assaults happening, people who feel like they are not safe in their own home."



FRIENDLY FIRE Opponents take the opportunity to ask each other questions at SUBstage. SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

Joke candidate Horse with a Gun, however, focused on threats outside the university.

"One of my main incentives is to add one mandatory year for all students for a campus military ... to protect us from Grant MacEwan University," it stated.

The second SUBstage forum was dominated by discussion of street teams and campus events.

The bulk of the forum featured VP (Student Life) candidates William Lau and Kevin Smith.

Smith spent his time explaining how to market SU events to the student body.

"I want to bring back a street team ... a group of students that went around and did classroom talks to actually engage students as to what was going on on campus," he said.

"We have many great events that, quite frankly, students just don't know about."

Lau, however, focused on ideas for creating events geared towards student health.

"(I would like to) support student health by starting an event on campus where we can showcase student talent. There are so many diverse groups on campus and such a great diversity in the students that we have," he said.

Other issues addressed in the VP (Student Life) debate included eliminating red tape for campus events involving alcohol, changes to the meal plan and increasing diversity in the SU's executive team.

In the uncontested VP (Operations and Finance) race, candidate Josh Le addressed how to solve the issue of SU businesses, such as Juicy's inability to generate a profit.

"There are two ways the SU can go. They can create an SU owned and operated business ... or they can put a new tenant there," he said.

"I think those are two viable opportunities to create more money for the SU."

Students can vote online and in-person on March 6 and 7.

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Andrea Ross + AmirAli Sharifi



Sara Cranston SCIENCE IV

"I would be the official caffeine supplier, because it seems like something students need more access to."



Dana Larmour NURSING IV

"I always thought that during finals, the library should have something where everyone can scream for five minutes, and then it's silent again ... the Campus Screamer. Or where people can just scream out randomly to let out stress."



Steve Leydon ENGINEERING III

"I'd probably campaign for free McDonald's in SUB. McDonald's Man!"



Jordan Bell SCIENCE III

"I'd have to do Horse with a Gun. I don't think it's a bad idea."



Keep up with the new crop of Students' Union executives.  
Make sure to pick up The Gateway's special elections results issue this Friday!



online at THEGATEWAYONLINE.CA



# Candidates cross-examined at Monday's Myer Horowitz forum

Michelle Mark

ONLINE REPORTER • @MICHELLEAMARK

Students' Union election candidates drew nearly 100 students to Myer Horowitz Monday afternoon for an all-candidates forum.

Moderated by Chief Returning Officer Farid Iskandar, the forum kicked off with a series of opening comments from each candidate, minus an absent Kevin Smith, followed by cross-examinations for the contested presidential and Student Life races.

Presidential candidate and current Vice-President (Student Life) Saadiq Sumar began his cross-examination by questioning opponent Petros Kusmu, current Vice-President (External), about Kusmu's plans to see his platform points put into action should he be elected.

"(That's) exactly why I made a 31-page platform document with 66 citations that clearly outlines how I'm going to accomplish each and every promise that I've made, if elected President," Kusmu said.

In his rebuttal, Sumar listed his own upheld promises, including negotiating U-Pass prices, organizing a campus musical and working to reduce rent increases.

"Other presidential candidates have failed to deliver on a number of their promises," he said, citing last year's promised creation of plebiscite questions on fees and campus tours for MLAs as examples.

"These have been goals that have been established months ago, that they were supposed to have delivered on and completed in the fall."

Standing in for absent Vice-President (Student Life) candidate Kevin Smith, volunteer Dylan Hanwell delivered Smith's opening statement and took a question from opponent William Lau regarding Smith's plan to use a street team to promote events in lieu of just posters.

"How can we make a street team



**RACE TO THE FINISH** Candidates take on the biggest election forum yet.

HARRY DU

more sustainable? And what supports will we have for the volunteers, so that it's an initiative that they want to take (up) throughout the year?" Lau asked.

Hanwell replied Smith would first look into volunteers, and added it would be possible to find people who cared enough about student life to get involved.

"I know (Smith) really, really cares about this, and I wouldn't put it past him to actually take it as a personal initiative upon himself," he said.

During their opening comments, candidates also took advantage of the opportunity to explain their platforms and reasons for running.

"When I close my eyes and I think about what a healthy U of A could look like, I see students smiling, I hear them laughing, I hear

conversation, I hear music," Lau said.

"I see more colour throughout the day, and more lights at night. That's why I'm running to be VP (Student Life)."

Incumbent Vice-President (Academic) candidate Dustin Chelen spoke about his own experiences as a U of A undergraduate, which he said propelled him to include compassion as part of his platform.

"I love this place. I've never had a place where I felt more at home, and I don't want to leave yet," he said.

"Ultimately, I want a compassionate university — a place where everyone feels at home, a place where everyone feels accepted, and something that means as much to each one of you as it does to me."

Voting takes place March 6 and 7, with online and in-person options.

## Pride Week to create safe LGBTQ campus space

Katelyn Hoffart

STAFF REPORTER • @KATELYNHOFFART

The U of A is gearing up to put their pride on parade for next week's first official campus-sponsored Pride Week.

The week and a half long celebration will take place March 13 to 22, hosting events ranging from academic discussions and art shows to dramatic monologue performances on campus.

Education programmer for the Institute of Sexual Minority Studies and Services (ISMSS) Alexis Hillyard is looking forward to creating a supportive campus-wide environment for all students, staff and faculty.

"We decided to make (Pride Week) really visible and something that would have a presence on campus, to tell students and staff, 'Yes, this is a safe space; this is a place that recognizes, protects and respects who you are; and there are services available,'" she said.

ISMSS and campus-based OUTreach, a support services centre for LGBTQ students, were the main organizing bodies of the event and have been planning out the week since early November. Hillyard said a primary objective of Pride Week is to create awareness about support services offered at the U of A.

"About a year and a half ago, we launched a campus climate survey,

and in that survey students were telling us that they didn't know what support existed on campus for LGBTQ students," she explained.

"Even though there are many things offered on campus, there was a lack of visibility and a lack of support that appeared."

**"We should want to be treating every student exactly the same way. Everybody should feel a level of safety, security (and) comfort in interactions and conversations."**

GERRY KENDAL  
REGISTRAR, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

An outpouring of support for this event has already been given by campus faculties as well as the University of Alberta Protective Services, the Dean of Students, the Office of Safe Disclosure and Human Rights and the campus sexual assault centre.

ISMSS has also made additional partnerships with the Alberta Public Interest Research Group, the Pride Festival Society of Edmonton and the SU's Gender-Based Violence Prevention Project, in order to make Pride Week possible.

One of these partners — the Office of the Registrar — donated assets needed to create the Pride Week flags, designing the visuals themselves and having an external company create them. The university's Facilities and Operations will be hoisting these on all the flag banners across campus as the week draws near.

"Staff ... just really subscribed to the importance of the notion of (safe spaces), and we've had a pretty strong connection with (ISMSS) since. It's important work; the university is a very inclusive atmosphere," said U of A Registrar Gerry Kendal.

"We should want to be treating every student exactly the same way. Everybody should feel a level of safety, security (and) comfort in interactions and conversations."

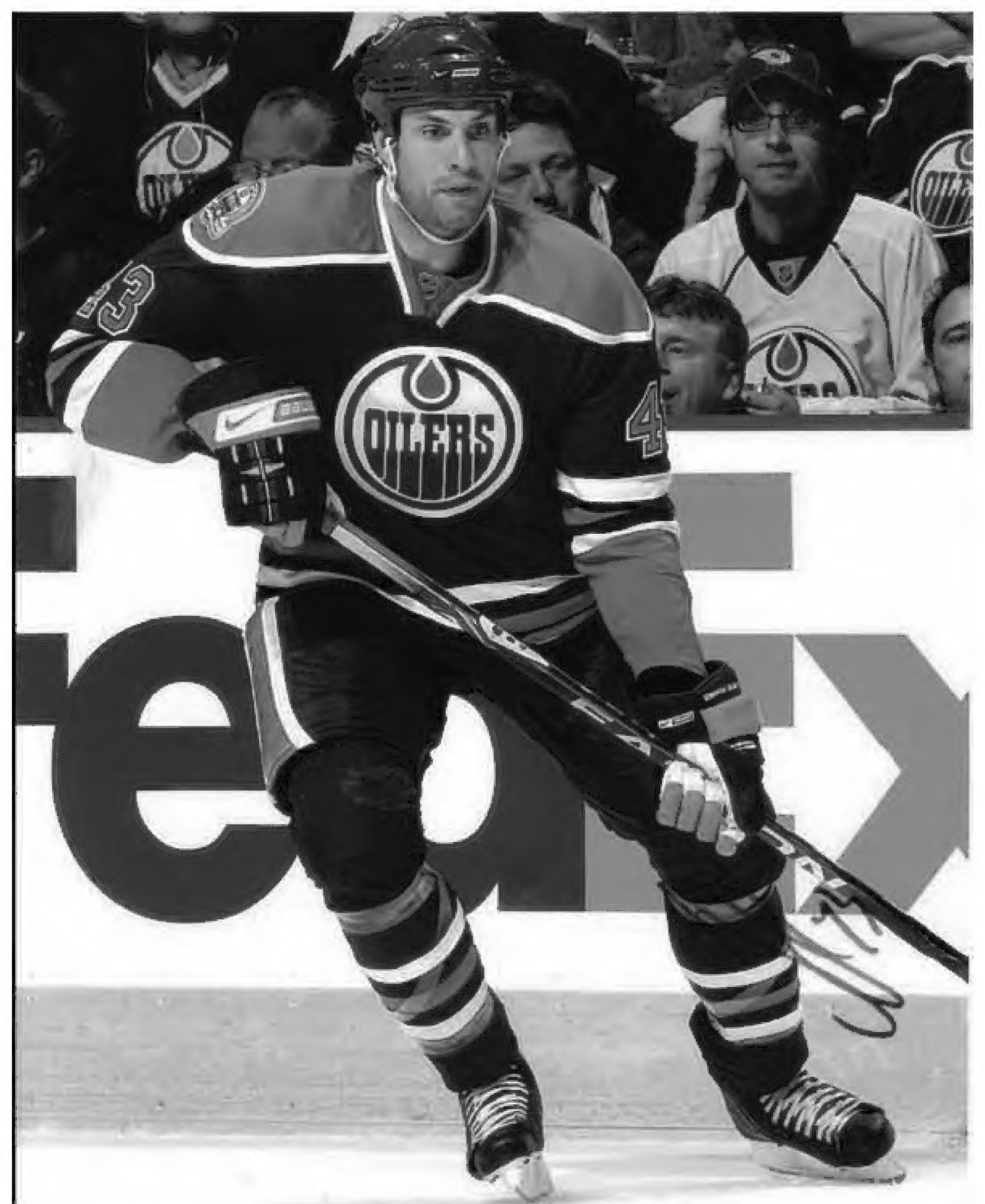
On Monday, March 18, the day will kick off with a pride parade around Quad at noon. A panel discussing LGBTQ family and school culture will also be held, as well as a keynote from visiting professor Janice Ristock titled What's to be done: A dialogue on how communities can better respond to relationship violence in LGBTQ lives.

Additional activities include an organized dodgeball game and bootcamp. Rainbow Yoga will also have a yoga instructor lead a practice and discuss how yoga can combat the negative effects of homophobia on the body.

# O2's

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# Asked & ANSWERED

WITH

**Jared Smith**  
'98 BCom

**Current Occupation:** Co-Founder, Owner of Incite Marketing.

**What do you miss most about being a U of A student?** I miss the energy, youth and enthusiasm. We were too young to know it "couldn't be done" so we went ahead and "did it"!

**What's the one piece of advice you'd give a current U of A student?** Start something! Campus is a safe and awesome testing ground for creativity, organization, event management, public speaking, negotiations and sales.

**Favourite secret makeout/study spot?** Back corner of the Bio-Sci building — I had a thing for girls who were smarter than me — it's actually where I met my wife!

**If you got one university do-over, what would it be?** I would have spent more time integrating my volunteer activities with other faculties — we were too segregated back then.

 **UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA**  
**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
[ualberta.ca/alumni/students](http://ualberta.ca/alumni/students)

# Students brave homelessness to raise money for charity

**April Hudson**  
NEWS EDITOR • @APRIL\_HUDSON

Seven business students will get a taste of the streets next week as part of this year's 5 Days for the Homeless campaign.

Running March 10–15 this year, the campaign aims to raise money through corporate sponsorship and personal donations for the Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS), which helps Edmonton youths in need.

Students from the Alberta School of Business founded the campaign in 2005 with the goal of raising \$500 — a goal that has risen this year to \$30,000.

"They wanted to see how long it would take for people to recognize they were doing an initiative. So they stayed on campus for (five days). They got \$1,000 (in) donations," Edmonton event chair Maryna Vysotski said.

"Now it's a national campaign, with over 27 schools participating this year."

This year's School of Business team consists of six first-year students and Vysotski, who is in her fourth year.

"This is my first time (participating). I've admired it for the past three years — I always really liked the cause, because I think it's great to be able to help kids here in Edmonton," Vysotski said.

The initiative is not limited to the School of Business, but since that's where the campaign originated, Vysotski says they are tackling the issue of raising awareness and participation among students from other faculties.

"We sent out an email, and there were about 16 applications, and they were all from the School of Business," she said.

"That's something for future years that I want to encourage ... Anybody's free to apply."

One suggestion Vysotski has for the future is asking next year's Students' Union president to send



SUPPLIED

out a campus-wide email about the event. However, this would bring its own challenges.

"The only concern with having a lot of people (involved) ... is that it might give off a negative impression," she said.

**"We have no food and no money. You come in, and you bring a sleeping bag — that's all. You're not changing clothes, you're not doing makeup or hair, nothing like that."**

MARYNA VYSOTSKI  
LOCAL CHAIR, 5 DAYS FOR THE HOMELESS

"I know in past years, any time there was more than seven or eight students, people started thinking of it as a university party ... and it just became negative. (That's) not something we want to do at all — we don't want to make it a mockery."

The official campaign kicks off Sunday, March 10, at 7 p.m. During the campaign, the volunteers will be adhering to a list of strict rules.

For the length of the campaign, the participants will be staying

outside from 7 p.m. until 7 a.m. They are also prohibited from using showers or from bringing any basic necessities such as toothbrushes with them.

"We have no food and no money. You come in, and you bring a sleeping bag — that's all. You're not changing clothes, you're not doing makeup or hair, nothing like that," Vysotski said

The participants can only eat food donated to them, with all non-perishable donations going to YESS.

Additionally, they are required to attend all classes and complete all academic responsibilities. They're also restricted from using cell phones or Facebook, aside from promoting the campaign.

They can also trade in their sleeping bags for a one-time emergency meal if need be.

The group will be on campus at all times during the campaign, doing classroom runs and tabling in various locations.

"I'm very excited and a little nervous — just putting it all together, the week before, because once the campaign happens there's nothing you can do (and) it's out of your control," she said.

The information page for 5 Days for the Homeless is located at [facebook.com/5DaysEdmonton](http://facebook.com/5DaysEdmonton), with donations being accepted at [5days.ca](http://5days.ca).

# GFC Executive sheds light on Fall Reading Week

**April Hudson**  
NEWS EDITOR • @APRIL\_HUDSON

After three years of consultation, the Students' Union is finally bringing the Fall Reading Week to the General Faculties Council for discussion.

Monday's GFC Executive Committee meeting passed the motion to add the point to the March 14 GFC agenda. After several proposals and revisions, the current Fall Reading Week proposal advocates for a week in November concurrent with Remembrance Day. The timing of the week would push final exams more often into Dec. 22, and would make the first day of classes start before Labour Day more often than it currently does.

"I'm really happy we got the discussion point on the agenda — that was a great step," said GFC undergraduate Arts representative Adam Woods.

"I wish we would have had an opportunity to actually vote on it and approve it at the next GFC meeting, but obviously that didn't happen. We heard from many people on the committee that they felt it needed to be discussed a bit further."

Before explaining the proposal to the GFC Executive Committee,

Students' Union president Colten Yamagishi expressed some disappointment in how the Fall Reading Week has been handled to date.

"I do feel that this proposal has been somewhat hijacked from the students," he said, adding that he had not been included in discussion among deans.

Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic) Colleen Skidmore extrapolated on concerns the university's deans have submitted regarding the proposal.

**"I do feel that this proposal has been somewhat hijacked from students."**

COLTEN YAMAGISHI  
PRESIDENT, STUDENTS' UNION

"All the deans indicate they support the impetus of the Fall Reading Week initiative — that is, the good mental health of students," she said.

Concerns centred on the timing of the break, which many deans felt was too late in the term.

"Concern that for a full week, that lack of structure that late in the term could add distress to students' mental health for those most at risk,"

Skidmore explained.

Other concerns included starting before Labour Day Weekend, and the impact that might have on Fall Orientation and students' summer employment, as well as the exam period being extended more often through to Dec. 22.

The discussion concerning Fall Reading Week opened with Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Martin Ferguson-Pell, who expressed dissatisfaction with how the proposal had been brought forward to the GFC Execs.

"There hadn't been an opportunity for me to get feedback from the deans, and I bent over backwards in order to ensure I could get that feedback ... so that this could be considered on this meeting," Ferguson-Pell explained.

Ferguson-Pell also took contention with how the proposal was submitted, following a procedure he deemed "highly unusual" which bypassed the Executive Committee chair.

After a vote, the proposal was put on the upcoming GFC agenda.

"I have faith in the administration to move forward with this, and now that it's been brought up I really hope there is progress made on the issue," Woods said.



# Budget challenges to require vertical program cuts

University of Alberta to overhaul financial habits, embrace new funding models in light of provincial cuts and \$12 million structural deficit

**Michelle Mark**  
ONLINE REPORTER • @MICHELLEAMARK  
**April Hudson**  
NEWS EDITOR • @APRIL\_HUDSON

The University of Alberta's looming structural deficit of \$12 million, along with possible cuts to the province's funding, will require an overhaul of the institution's financial habits, said President Indira Samarasekera in her State of the University address Thursday afternoon.

The university's two main sources of funding come from students' tuition and the Government of Alberta's Campus Alberta grant, the latter of which may face a cut when the province releases its 2013-14 budget on March 7, Samarasekera warned.

**"We will ask the provincial government to open the Post Secondary Learning Act and to untie our hands, so that we have the flexibility we need to move to new funding models."**

INDIRA SAMARASEKERA  
PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

"We will no longer be able to take an across-the-board approach to managing budget challenges. We have reached the point where doing so threatens the quality and



**TOUGH DECISIONS** University president Indira Samarasekera warned of coming difficulties during Wednesday's address.

CHAO ZHANG

strength of the whole," she said.

"This is difficult news. And I want to assure you that while it is imperative that we do act, we will not make impulsive or imprudent decisions."

The university's response to the imminent budgetary concerns will mainly come in the form of program cuts and renewed fundraising initiatives, especially from alumni, Samarasekera said.

She added the administration has no intention of instituting a hiring freeze.

"Vertical programming cuts will have to be made, but downsource

strategically with an eye on excellence and strengthening our core academic foci," she said.

"The aim is to make smart, strategic decisions, to devote resources to the areas of strength that distinguish us, and to focus investment in areas where we can have a significant, positive impact locally, nationally and internationally."

The university has developed their 2013-14 Comprehensive Institutional Plan based on a two per cent increase to their operating grant, which was promised at the release of last year's provincial budget.

If cuts do go through, the plan will have to undergo revision.

"In the longer term, we will ask the provincial government to open the Post Secondary Learning Act and to untie our hands, so that we have the flexibility we need to move to new models," Samarasekera said.

The notion of "untying hands" brought forward two public questions from audience members. Carolyn Sale, chair of the Academic Faculty Committee for the Association of Academic Staff University of Alberta (AASUA), asked for clarification.

"At this point, other than the

fact that every time I turn around and look at what we can and cannot do, there are huge sets of rules and regulations around (resources) ... untying our hands around revenue generation," Samarasekera explained.

"Around administrative services, if the University of Alberta can begin to generate some revenue by offering those services to other campuses, that is one example."

Students' Union president Colten Yamagishi also brought forward concerns about the statement.

"When we talk about untying the institution's hands, I think that one direct stream of revenue generation is always student funding," Yamagishi said.

"At (a campus speech) from Premier Alison Redford, she made the comment that under her leadership there would be no changes to the tuition cap — no 'untying of the hands,' so to speak."

Yamagishi further asked what the university's specific plan would be towards revenue from students.

"We have to look at all revenue sources," Samarasekera said.

"If we look at the median of tuition, for example, for grad students, the U of A is among the lowest in the country ... We have to ask the question: can we afford to sustain and subsidize graduate education at a tuition level that is much lower than our peers?"

The provincial budget will be released March 7, at which point the university will find out whether or not it needs to make additional cuts.

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# Epperson wins GSA presidency

**Michelle Mark**  
ONLINE REPORTER ■ @MICHELLEAMARK

*The President is the chief executive officer of the GSA and is responsible for the GSA's overall operations, as well as external and university affairs. This year's winner was Brent Epperson.*



**NEW CHIEF** Brent Epperson will take the GSA's reins for the next year. SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

## 1 What will be some of your priorities over the next year?

When it comes to tuition and fees, our position is that we'll oppose any tuition increases beyond CPI, and any new market modifier tuition increases. From our perspective, market modifiers were supposed to be a one-time thing, so we're opposed to new requests for market modifiers.

Our team ran in support for increased funding for graduate students, so that includes salaries (and) bursaries for things like professional development grants, childcare subsidies and emergency bursaries.

We've developed a strategic plan this year, and we've started to implement (it). But really, we need to see through the work we've done this year. What I'm hoping to do is continue the progress that we've made on the GSA Board this year.

## 2 Why did you run for President this year?

I feel like I was able to accomplish quite a bit on the Board (of Governors) this year and start some very good work, make progress for graduate students on campus, and I wanted to continue that next year.

I'm running to bring continuity to the GSA, and make more progress on graduate students' tuition and fees, services for graduate students — including international students — and getting more professional development opportunities for graduate students.

We think that's a key issue — since most graduate students do not go into academia, it's important

to have diverse opportunities and we've begun having discussions on professional development with the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR).

## 3 What skills or experiences make you qualified for this position?

As (last year's) VP (Labour), I also served as the executive Vice-President. So in the event that the President was unable to attend an event, or was unable to serve on a particular committee, then I would stand in.

I was also an external member of the Board of Governors, so I was able to start building relationships with members of the Board of Governors this year. So that means I have experience with key external organizations that we have to lobby with to realize our agenda.

## 4 How do you feel now that you've won?

I feel great. What graduate students said in this election by voting for our team is that the university isn't just a business. The university is a public institution that's democratically governed.

We ran against vertical budget cuts, and the graduate students who voted us in also ran against vertical

budget cuts.

Certainly, we believe strongly in collegial governance, but I feel that we have a strong mandate to advance a progressive vision of higher education in Alberta, and we're going to bring that vision to the university administration. We're going to work closely with our friends at FGSR to develop the best graduate programs possible, and we're going to bring that progressive vision to government as well.

## 5 What's the first thing you plan on doing once your term starts?

Actually, it won't wait until our term starts. I'm working right now. Since I'm currently on the GSA Board, like I said, a lot of what we're doing is continuity. So I'm going to keep working with my team.

Some issues that were brought to our attention, such as prayer space, adequate and consistent prayer space for religious groups on campus, that's something that international graduate students had pointed out as a top priority.

I have spoken with the current President Ashlyn Bernier and the Dean of Students about this issue, and I'd say within the next week we'll be working to make some progress on that.

# Speech therapy to help disabled children

**Billy-Ray Belcourt**  
NEWS WRITER ■ @BILLYRAYB

Children who stutter as a result of Down syndrome are now the subject of speech therapy tests from a team of U of A researchers aiming to improve their fluency skills.

Marilyn Langevin, director of research at the Institute for Stuttering Treatment and Research (ISTAR), and Jessica Harasym, ISTAR speech pathologist and Elks and Royal Purple clinician chair, released a case study in late February demonstrating how fluency-shaping techniques can alleviate stuttering despite developmental delays.

"Using a treatment approach that is essentially the same as what we would do with other children who don't have Down syndrome can be quite effective," Harasym said.

Direct treatment approaches — including modelling speech techniques, turn taking and visual cues — are specifically employed to teach children efficient fluency skills.

Harasym explained the results of enhancing this program with minor adjustments were outstanding.

"We have something that allows us to count their speech ... and that gives us a percentage of syllables stuttered," she explained.

"After treatment, we measured (a subject's) speech and noticed that her stuttering had come down quite significantly. She went from about 58 to 60 per cent syllables stuttered down

to five or seven per cent. At follow up, we tracked her for another four months after the treatment phase and she was down to 0.8 per cent."

Langevin highlighted how stuttering plays a detrimental role in a person's life by lowering self-confidence and self-esteem. The patient in question, Sarah, could participate and talk with family and friends far more easily after the treatment.

**"There is not much research out there, in terms of outcomes and treatment programming for children who have stuttering and other co-existing speech and language disorders."**

MARILYN LANGEVIN  
INSTITUTE FOR STUTTERING TREATMENT AND RESEARCH, DIRECTOR

To mirror these results on a larger scale, Langevin suggested measures could be employed within classrooms that have students with language and developmental issues.

"(Teachers can) use a slightly slower rate of speech (when talking to their students)," she explained. "Modelling a slower rate of speech really calms the environment and gives the child more opportunity to get their turn and use the fluency skills."

Clinically, Langevin hopes the extensive routine of the treatment program provided with the case study will allow speech pathologists to execute proper and thorough research surrounding stuttering and co-existing disorders.

"There is not much research out there, in terms of outcomes and treatment programming for children who have stuttering and other co-existing speech and language disorders," she said.

"This (treatment) ... will give some guidance for speech pathologists who maybe don't have as much experience but want to try the direct treatment approach."

She added further speech programs have the ability to instill happiness and success in these individuals.

"With Down syndrome children, or children who have any other motor (or) cognitive challenges, we (must) teach to their ability and raise their level of functioning by making sure we simplify or adapt regular treatment techniques to make sure that they can be successful," she said.

"We can help them to significantly improve both their speech fluency and their overall participation (in life) and their ability to enjoy speaking again with greater ease."

ISTAR is a not-for-profit organization within the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine whose programming and research is sponsored by the Elks and various other donors.



# Bajaj takes VP (Student Services) as incoming GSA Exec member

**April Hudson**

NEWS EDITOR • @APRIL\_HUDSON

*The Vice-President (Student Services) is responsible for GSA and university services provided to graduate students and for space-related issues. This year's winner was Megha Bajaj.*

## 1 What were your main platform points?

For my position, I think professional development opportunities for graduate students and better university residences are the two main important points. I think about 60 per cent of the graduate students who are currently enrolled in the university do not want to be in academia. They want to go out into industry and find jobs.

So I think in order to support those students, we need more professional development: seminars, workshops and also some bursaries which will reimburse students when they attend workshops and conferences, and also for taking some courses.

I live in one of the university residences, and my experience has been good. However, every year our rent increases, but we do not have an increase in our stipend, so I think that's not fair. Also, (we need to) work towards having improved maintenance services for residents of Michener Park.

## 2 What kind of qualifications do you think you have for the job?

I've been very involved in the university community. I am currently serving as Co-VP Communications at ABCampus, which is an organization involved in organizing events for networking opportunities for students. We collaborate with industry professionals within Edmonton and they give a chance for students to go talk to these industry



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professionals.

I'm also the current floor representative of graduate and professional studies in Newton place. Here, my role is to arrange seminars in collaboration with CAPS and other organizations within Newton Place, and these are also events which help students in professional development.

I worked with Residence Services as a marketing intern over the summer, so that gave me a very good opportunity to interact with a lot of students, their parents and what exactly they expect from the university's residences when they're coming here as new students.

## 3 Why did you run for the position?

As I said, I have been very involved in the university community. But I wanted to get more involved with the graduate student community in the university, so that's why I decided to run.

Also, I have used some of the services that are offered by the GSA, and I've had a very good experience.

However, several of my friends for example, and in general many graduate students don't even know about these services. For example, many other things like medical

emergencies, emergency bursaries.

But now I will be a part of GSA, and I want to spread awareness about the services that are offered by the GSA, and I want to reach out to as many departments as possible and make them aware of what the GSA is.

## 4 How do you feel now that you've won?

I feel great that campaigning is done and the results are out! It feels (good) to be a winner, and I'm really excited that I won with my whole team — the A Team. I also feel more responsible now, since there is a lot of work to be done and (we) are thinking about various projects we'd like to work on. I think it's going to be an interesting year.

## 5 What's the first thing you want to do with your new position?

I want to make strong relationships with alumni who are working in Industry, and other industry professionals, and talk to them about the possibility of having a new mentorship program on campus. I also want to reach out to different departments and create more awareness about the GSA ... to get more students to participate.

# Incoming GSA VP (Labour) critiques U of A

**Michelle Mark**

ONLINE REPORTER • @MICHELLEAMARK

*The Vice-President (Labour) is responsible for labour-related matters concerning graduate students and special projects. This year's winner was Simarjit "Monty" Bal.*

## 1 What will be some of your priorities over the next year?

TA-related issues, RA-related issues, tuition, finding funding — but there's also other stuff that the GSA has been working on as well. There's professional development opportunities that we want to increase for students, and there's also initiatives for international students.

(Samarasekera's State of the University address) was a bit disappointing. The state of the university, she said, is strong. I don't think it is. I think it's a problem when we're not getting the type of funding from provincial government that we should be, especially with the budget coming down on March 7, so that's a bit of a problem.

The university is a public good — it's not a business, as some administrators like to think. And we want to preserve that.

## 2 What skills or experiences make you qualified for this position?

I was one of the founding members

of FASS (Faculty of Arts Staff Solidarity), I've also been the Treasurer for the PSGSA (Political Science Graduate Students' Association) for three years, and I'm the current President.

I've been on the GSA Council for a year and the Vice-Chair of the Labour Relations Committee.

My initial qualifications were more at the departmental level — if you want to implement something, it's better to do it locally. But obviously there are issues, such as a funding situation, where you can't just do it at the departmental level. The axe comes down, and you basically have to implement. We don't want the axe to come down in the first place, so you have to take it up to the GSA level.

## 3 Why did you run for President this year?

As VP (Labour), you get to represent the students. Students are generally one of the least strong of all the players on campus.

I want the university to be a welcoming place for students, where they feel comfortable to do whatever. Our department is one of the most open departments in terms of who you are, who you want to be. I think it's that kind of openness, that kind of safe space, that allows students to work.

Second is trying to get the

attention of the administration to the problems that students actually have.

The provincial level — this provincial government talks about how they want to diversify the economy. Well, if you want a diverse economy, you start at post-secondary institutions. This is where that diversity actually ferments. It's a bit of a problem when you have the provincial government cutting funding for post-secondary education. It's a long-term loss for post-secondary education — this is one of the main drivers of the economy in Alberta, and you're cutting its knees out from under it.

## 4 How do you feel now that you've won?

I hated campaigning. I'm not politically savvy. I have a tendency to say what I want, and that's not necessarily positive when it comes to campaigning. But I'm just happy it's over. It was pretty stressful. It was a close race. But I think one of the things that our team highlighted was we wanted to reach out to all the university.

## 5 What's the first thing you plan on doing once your term starts?

Probably say something stupid. That's what I usually start off with, just to break the ice.

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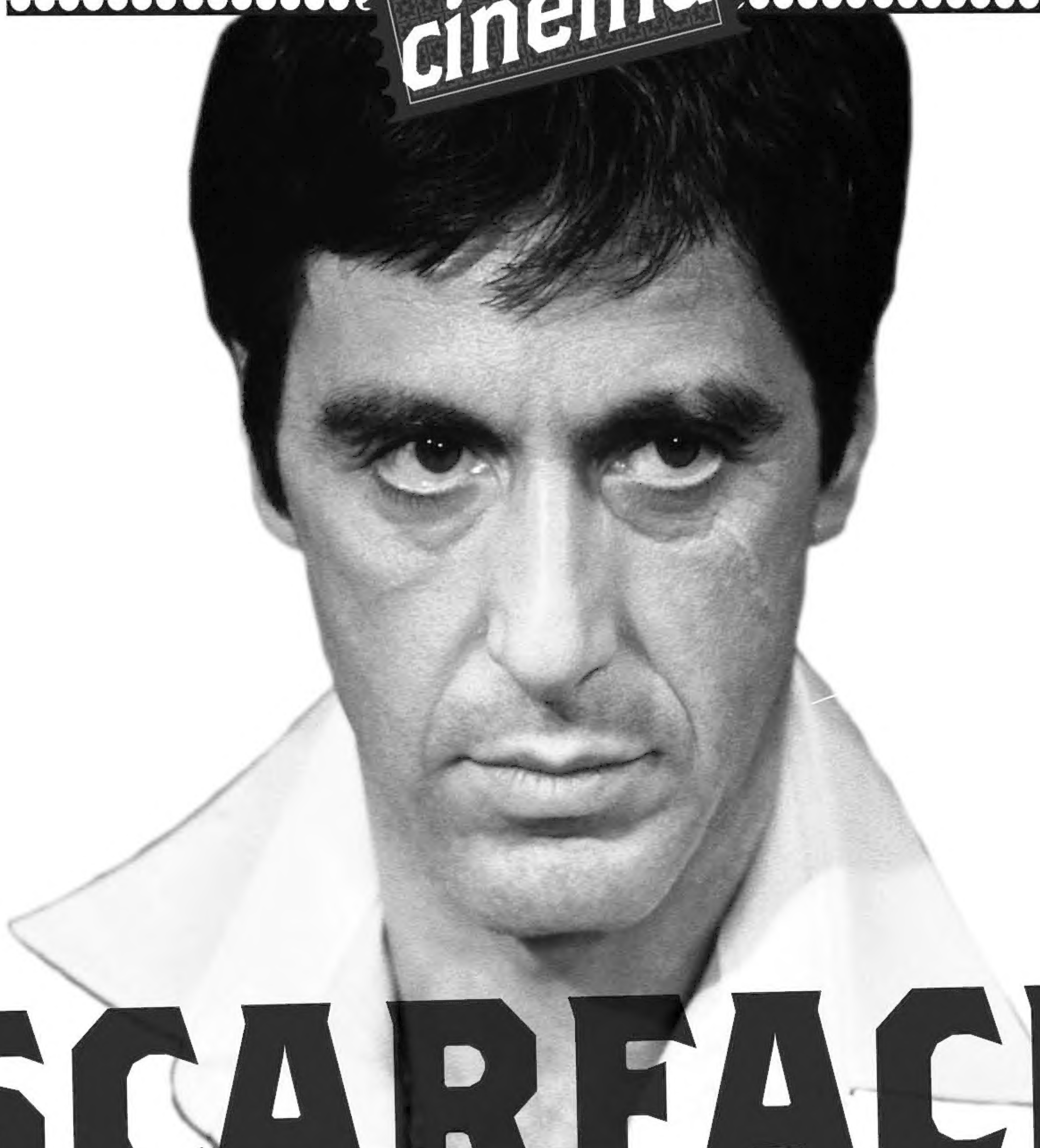
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# Haroon to tackle residence fees as incoming GSA VP (Student Life)

**Michelle Mark**  
ONLINE REPORTER ■ @MICHELLEAMARK

*The Vice-President (Student Life) is responsible for student life and engagement, including planning social events, supporting graduate student groups and residence life. This year's winner was Mohammed Hasin Haroon.*

## 1 What will be some of your priorities over the next year?

We all had the team platform, but I guess what was important to me was permanent residency assistance. I think, because we have a lot of international students here, and a lot of them want to get permanent residency, but right now the university doesn't have that much support for them. Whereas some other residencies, such as the University of Western Ontario, for example, they actually cover some of their permanent residency application fees.

On top of that, I'd say, we're looking at a relocation bursary for students from developing countries, and that would really help the cost of moving to Canada.

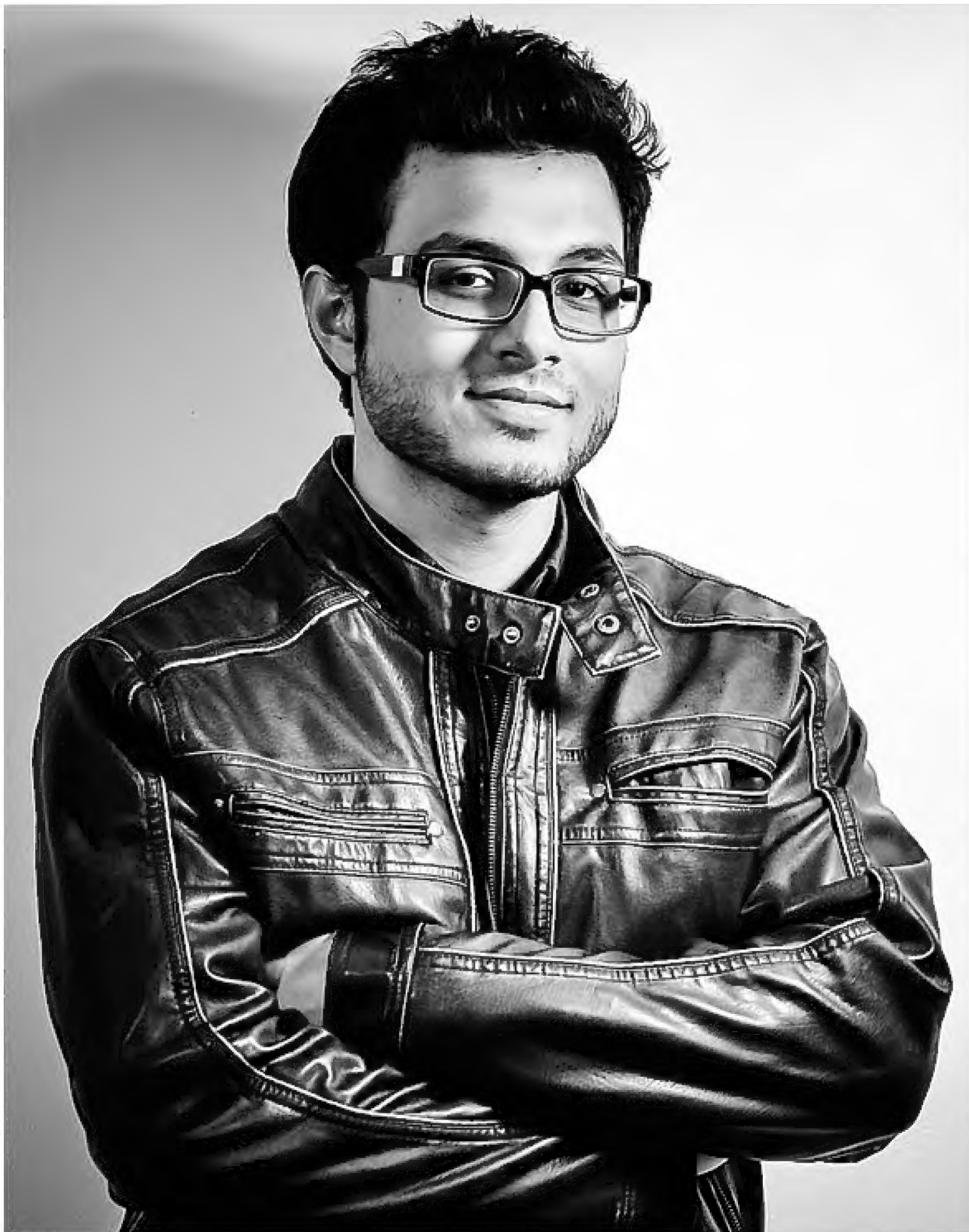
## 2 Why did you run for Vice-President (Student Life) this year?

In Engineering, you don't really get the chance to give back that much, and so I really wanted to be in a situation that lets me affect people's lives right now.

Also, there are a couple of problems that graduate students face, and I faced as well, and I think that being in the GSA and working with the GSA gives you a very good platform from which we improve these things.

## 3 What skills or experiences make you qualified for this position?

I've been involved, from my undergraduate days in the U.K., in student societies and welfare organizations such as the Islamic Relief Fund. I haven't been in student governance



**NEW BLOOD** As VPSL, Haroon is the incoming face of the GSA.

SUPPLIED

yet, but these skills have required me to do a lot of the jobs I'll have to do right now, such as lobbying and representing the organizations and so on.

Plus, I've lived in five different countries, so I bring in a different mindset, and that lets me look at policies and ideas from the perspectives of students from various countries. I hope I'm a pretty well-rounded individual for this job.

## 4 How do you feel now that you've won?

I feel pretty good. I actually had two opponents, and everyone else had one, so campaigning was a bit stressful. But, yeah, I'm pretty stoked. One

of my opponents that was running against me was in my department as well, so it made things a lot more interesting.

## 5 What's the first thing you plan on doing once your term starts?

Once I begin my term, we're going to look at how to change the portfolios for each of the Vice-Presidents, because before, it was a very heavy portfolio for the Vice-President (Academic) and the Vice-President (Labour), so right now we're trying to reshuffle everything so it's a lot more evenly spaced out. So I think that's one of the major things we have to look at first of all, before we start on anything.

# Incoming GSA Vice-President (Academic) More to look at supervisor-student relations

**Michelle Mark**  
ONLINE REPORTER ■ @MICHELLEAMARK

*The Vice-President (Academic) promotes the interests of graduate students by sitting on numerous university committees that deal with academic matters. This year's winner was Colin More.*

## 1 What skills or experiences make you qualified for this position?

I began on the GSA Council last Spring, just as a councillor. I quickly got involved with the Labour Relations Committee, negotiating that collective agreement.

I've also served as a delegate for the current President and VP (Academic) on a few university-level committees. There's the Academic Standards Committee, the Subcommittee on Standards, I've been on GFC Exec a couple times, the Academic Planning Committee.

So I've already started building those relationships with the university administrators in this position, so it'll be useful.

Also, just by my nature as a scientist and as a person, I'm quite good at analyzing details and picking

important bits out of a document — I think that's probably really important as well.

## 2 What will be some of your priorities over the next year?

A big one, as an academic guy, is probably better supervisor-student relations ... there's the fact that a supervisor controls a student's life, essentially.

There's not a lot of oversight of that, so there needs to be controls in place for that. So to see what we can do for that is probably the big thing for me.

Improving the situation for international students. There's supports now, but they're not that great, particularly if you want to become a permanent resident. A lot of universities in Canada are doing a lot better than we are.

## 3 Why did you run for Vice-President (Academic) this year?

Free food. I guess, more realistically, I've always been interested in how things work, and the structure of things more than anything. Not so

much the power as the structure, and why they work. And the VP (Academic) position is really — it's how the university is run. It's the power structure of it.

So, just being involved with it is interesting to me in the first place, and I feel like I can make a difference for grad student life in the second place.

## 4 How do you feel now that you've won?

I'm kind of stoked, kind of, "Oh god, what have I done?" It'll be an interesting year.

## 5 What's the first thing you plan on doing once your term starts?

Well, I've already partied.

The other thing I wanted to mention was the professional development for students. Most graduate students won't work in academia, so we really have to ... come up with ways for preparing them for work, to be in the workforce, or careers outside academia in general, which hasn't really been done before.

# Eco-car building team sets sights on top Shell prize

**ECO-CAR** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Electrical engineering lead Peter Kos condoned the benefits of this kind of system, as well as the appeal of using hydrogen fuel over gasoline or diesel.

"This way, we can analyze the data in real time and make sure the car is running as efficiently as possible," he said.

"Our main pride (in using hydrogen) over gasoline is that it has zero emissions. All that comes out of the tailpipe is water — you don't get any of the fossil fuels."

The project began Sept. 2010, when the four group founders couldn't find a project based on both sustainability and technological innovations.

Funding has been provided through partnerships with the U of A, the Office of Sustainability and the Engineering Faculty. Corporate partnerships with Shell, Alberta Council of Technologies and Rohit Communities has also aided this year's expense, which business lead Anuraag Gupta said fell around the \$50,000 mark.

Shell holds an annual eco-marathon in Houston, Texas, happening this year from April 4 to 7. The eco-car team is hoping to top last year's second-place finish in the category of Best Overall Urban Concept Design, and have set their sights on the top prize in the hydrogen category.

"We're constantly learning more about the hydrogen fuel cell, because it is a new technology," Gupta said.

"There's a lot of tweaks that our electrical group has been working on, and optimizing some of the control systems that go along with it."

Because of last year's success, the eco-car team has increased their ambitions in regards to sponsors and innovations as well.

"Every year, we are looking for ways to improve. Having our first

competition car, having this car we have right now, where it's gotten to be more efficient, lighter and more powerful ... if we continue to improve (it), someday it will be a highway vehicle," Gupta said.

But despite the eco-car's success, the team still faces a series of challenges — the most difficult of which, in Gupta's eyes, is the issue of legitimacy.

"One of our biggest obstacles is proving that we are a legitimate contender, a legitimate project and a legitimate group," he explained. Recently, the eco-car got passed over for the Cross-Canada Tour, which would have taken it down highways and into cities.

**"... If we continue to improve (it), someday it will be a highway vehicle."**

ANURAAG GUPTA  
ECO-CAR BUSINESS LEAD

"Part of the reason why the Cross-Canada Tour got passed was because we weren't getting the support that we needed. There were some issues with liability, some issues with whether it's going to get done, issues with the faculty that it would be done safely," Gupta said.

For mechanical engineering lead Sahil Shah, this has been more than a side project, and has helped Shah discover what he wants to do as a career.

"Working through this, I found that I really enjoyed design work. But coming out of Engineering at the U of A ... I felt like I would have to go to grad school to have access to jobs like that," he said.

"To do something (like this) that's very similar to where I want to end up is remarkable."

## events listings

### Festival of Teaching Empey Lecture

March 6, 12 – 1 p.m.  
Maple Leaf Room, Lister Hall

### Aboriginal Speakers Series

March 6 – 8  
Room 231/237, Law Centre

### International Women's Day Panel Discussion

March 6, 5 – 6:30 p.m.  
238/236 TELUS Centre

### G-G-G-Giant Jenga!

March 8 – 9  
ETLC Atrium

### Calendar Town Hall

March 11, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
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# Opinion

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**Volunteer**

Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

## U of A in dire need of more solid funding for the long-term

AROUND THIS TIME FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS, THE STUDENTS and staff of the University of Alberta have discovered that once again, the university's funds are slowly circling the drain. But while this may be old news, that doesn't make it any easier to swallow. Cuts to programs is usually the standard answer to budgetary problems but more permanent, long-term fixes are needed to ensure we aren't having this same conversation year after year.

This past week at the State of the University address, President Indira Samarasekera delivered the bad news the U of A is facing a structural deficit of \$12 million in 2013-14, and that the coming year will likely bring with it a major overhaul of funds and resources. Of course, what this really means is more cuts to programs and potentially staff as well.

Thankfully, despite Samarasekera's admittance that tuition hikes may come into play down the line, they appear to be out of the picture — at least, for now. Premier Alison Redford promised this herself during a recent visit to the U of A and the claim was seconded by Enterprise and Advanced Education Minister Thomas Lukaszuk as well.

So while students can breathe a sigh of relief about avoiding a rise in tuition, some are still left worrying about whether or not their programming or resources will be cut. Samarasekera admitted at the address that small cuts from several places would no longer be enough to keep the university afloat, and the changes to come will likely be of greater impact as they invest in "strategic priorities" and "areas of strength" that set the university apart from other institutions.

While it is perhaps necessary in order to save the U of A, this type of action can only hurt the university down the line, as programs are cut that may be less profitable, but are still important to many students and staff.

With this news looming over students, it still remains to be seen what the U of A plans to do to make sure they don't find themselves in this situation again. In the past, the university has attempted to compensate by indulging in one-time funding, investment incomes and reliance on the government, but it's clear this model isn't working.

These methods may have helped in the past, but it's time to stop slapping band-aid solutions onto the university's problems and start actually making a move to improve the situation in the long term.

The first — and arguably most important — step towards accomplishing that is a revamping of the Campus Alberta grant system that contributes funds to all universities. The U of A is hoping the province will keep their promise of a two per cent increase to these operating grants when they present the provincial budget this week. But even this increase won't be enough to make up for the fact that the university's labour costs rose to about four per cent in the last year.

If the labour costs continue to outweigh the incoming revenue, the university will continue to find itself in the same situation year after year. Add that to the fact that the U of A obviously requires more money to run than its smaller counterparts, and you're left with the fact that the province seriously needs to revisit this funding system.

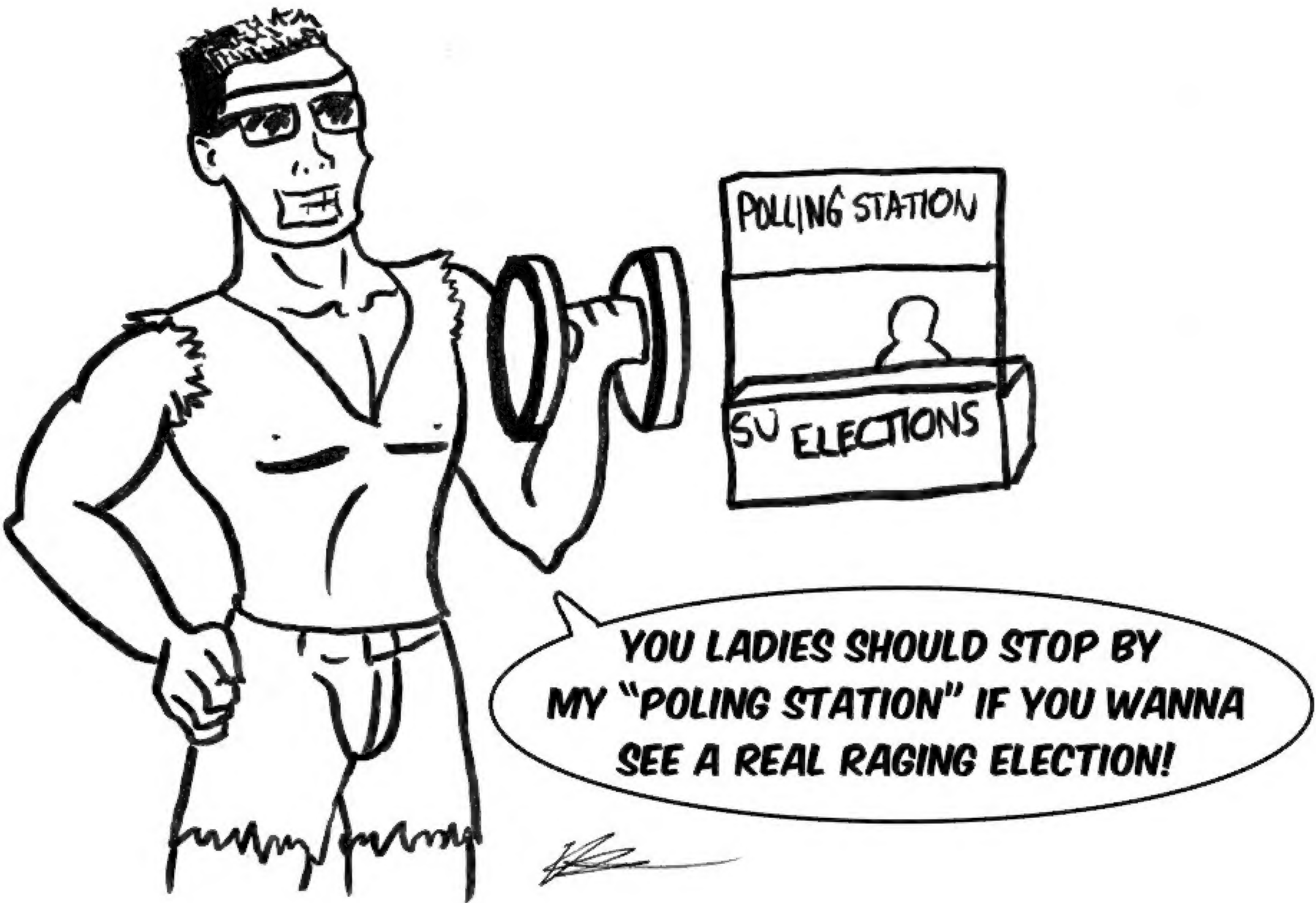
The fact that the university remains uncertain as to whether they'll even receive their promised two per cent increase in grants in also worrisome, and shows a disturbing trend in which education is continually shafted in favour of other projects. Ultimately, the province needs to step up and deliver on their past promises if they want to continue to call the University of Alberta a quality learning institution.

That said, the province is facing budgetary woes of its own, and leaning entirely on them may not be the most stable of solutions for the U of A. If the university wants to guarantee an increase in revenue without fear of the province making last minute changes on them, they need to step up their game and go beyond depending on provincial grant aid to solve their problems — because that's clearly not reliable. If this means turning to alumni for additional support or revamping the budget as Samarasekera indicated at her address, then so be it. The U of A has been standing on shaky legs for far too long, and it's become tiresome for all involved.

In the end, no matter what measures the university decides to take, the fact remains that they must be done and it has to start now with the aim of making this a long-term solution. Otherwise, no one can know what kind of deficit numbers we'll be looking at during next year's State of the University address. Students and staff deserve to have some certainty when it comes their education and jobs.

**Alana Willerton**  
ARTS EDITOR

## SOCIAL MEDIA MANCHILD DOUCHE BREWSKI ON VOTING DAY...



RYAN BROMSGROVE

## letters to the editor

FROM THE WEB

### Important voices missing in SU elections

Since the nomination deadline for the 2013/2014 SU election, concern has been expressed publicly over how few women have been standing for election. The trend is indeed troubling. As the female executives serving since 2005, this letter is an effort to participate in the ongoing dialogue, to share our experiences, advice, and regrets, and to suggest some productive ways to move forward.

It is first important to note that the conversation about who is standing in SU elections is not just about women. It is rather a question that encompasses all the communities that — all too often — do not have the attention of the Students' Union that they rightfully deserve. Mature, international, and aboriginal students are a few examples of student communities whose voices are chronically absent from the Students' Union and student government more broadly. It is also important to note that the SU represents many faculties who hardly ever have candidates standing for election. This is a shortcoming that the SU has been trying to address for some time; it is — of course — a difficult task, but an important one. To be clear, this is not a criticism of the current executive. None of us were as successful in representing the totality of the university community as we had hoped to be.

That being said, it is clear that the Students' Union does have a real and immediate problem to respond to

specifically with respect to women seeking office. In response to the question at hand: why are there not more women running? We haven't got "the" answer, and neither does anyone else. Every individual who thinks seriously about running, obviously, has their own independent and personal reasons. However, if it were purely personal, you would see relatively equal numbers of men and women contesting these positions. That's just statistics.

We don't know why women aren't running — what we do know are the reasons we did. We ran because we knew people who had participated in student elections before us — successfully or otherwise. It is this inspiration, mentorship, and friendship from students who are already serving — irrespective of gender — that made the daunting task of running possible for us. Student councillors, faculty association leaders, and executives are students too. This obvious fact was not obvious to us, however, until we sat down for tea with former candidates to commiserate on the obstacles to running in an election that all of these pressures represent.

We found the campaign trail daunting and gruelling and yes, sometimes sexist. It's hard to overhear "I'm not voting for her — she's not that hot," smile, and go talk to the next table. It's just as hard to hear "oh you've got my vote because you're a girl" before you have even had a chance to explain the ideas you would bring to the position you are contesting. It's discouraging to worry about campus media making fun of you for using 'girly' colours, and not be able to defend yourself with-

out coming across as "emotional" or "shallow." It's scary to know that the decision to run, in addition to being deeply personal, is a women's issue — you are expected to be an ambassador for your gender, even if all you want to do is make good on your campaign promises and leave campus a little better for your presence. It's hard, but it's worth it — it is really, really worth it. There are other, competing opportunities, but being on a student executive is a transformative experience that is, quite simply, life-altering. None of us regret taking the time out of our career paths and our degrees to serve as executives. We learned more about ourselves in that year than we could possibly have learned in any other position.

So, if you are a student who is curious about or interested in student government, the most important message to take from the debate is this: contact people — anyone who has been involved in student government. Never hesitate to reach out to any of us; ask questions, and do be honest about the barriers you experience in the process.

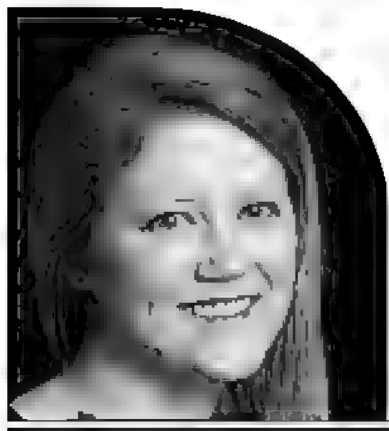
Finally, we congratulate the candidates who have taken the brave leap to put themselves on offer this year. We look forward to your leadership in representing not only the communities you come from, but also the many and diverse communities you serve.

**Leah Trueblood, Beverly Eastham  
Janelle Morin, Kristen Flath,  
Amanda Henry, Samantha Power**  
FORMER EXECUTIVES

The full version of this letter can be found at [thegatewayonline.ca](http://thegatewayonline.ca).



## Paying blood donors a fantastic way to increase donation rates



**Hannah Madsen**  
OPINION WRITER

Blood is about to go up in value. Two Canadian companies seeking plasma are offering to pay their donors. This may seem like a minor concern, but the Canadian system has been volunteer-based for the last 30 years. Critics of this move on the part of Canadian Plasma Resources based in Toronto and CanGene Plasma out of Winnipeg insist offering payment to potential donors will pollute both the donation system and the blood itself — an assumption that seems both pessimistic and antiquated. In fact, paying blood donors could vastly improve an outdated system.

At a time when only three per cent of the population is donating blood, the system used to collect it should be improved as much as possible in an effort to increase the donor demographic. If more conservative members of the healthcare profession believe the supply will be contaminated by donors who lie about pre-existing conditions, the testing processes for the blood itself should be the first priority for improvement.

Back in the 1980s, hepatitis C and HIV spread via tainted blood to thousands of Canadians because of paid donors imported from the U.S. In 1997, as a result of the extensive blood-related scandals, Judge Horace Krever decreed that in the interests of making the Canadian blood supply safer, blood collected to be used in Canada had to be taken from donors who were not being paid. In hindsight, this decision seems a little bit foolish — if there are problems with the blood, the improvement of the testing methods should be of primary importance. If the system is good enough to detect diseased blood, it won't matter if the donor is ill or not. Alternatively, perhaps there should be a focus on the creation of a system whereby donors aren't paid until after the blood they've given has been tested — almost everyone who works a job nowadays is paid biweekly, after all, and waiting for the payout from donated blood shouldn't be a major deal. If there was a wait involved, there wouldn't be a risk that a donor would be paid at the time of donation for diseased, unusable blood.

Focusing on the donors rather than the system is short-sighted and inefficient, but above all it makes negative assumptions about human nature. While you could argue that desiring payment for donated blood is just avarice on the part of

the potential donor, it boils down to the trust the system places in those who work within it. If blood drive organizers for Canadian Blood Services believed people were primarily altruistic, offering the option of payment would not be an issue, instead it would be assumed that the majority of people would still choose to donate blood. Additionally, offering payment has the potential to draw in a whole new pool of clientele, and while Canadian Blood Services officials and others within similar organizations may be afraid of losing valuable contributors to the companies offering payment, people donating because they feel it's a morally valuable thing to do may continue to donate despite the possibility of monetary gain. There is also the possibility that after the round of blood drives performed by Canadian Plasma Resources and CanGene Plasma are finished, there will be more people willing to donate in a more altruistic fashion.

Ultimately, the argument boils down to a determination of which is more important: a potential increase in the Canadian blood supply or skepticism towards possible donors. But if there isn't any faith that people will donate altruistically, it taints what is still primarily a volunteer-based system, which truly harms the people who need blood the most.

## SU elections should do more to involve first years



**Collin Horn**  
OPINION WRITER

One cancelled lecture, 10 identical presentations and 10,000 posters — that about summarizes my first experience with Students' Union elections. During my first semester at the university, I listened to disputes regarding Lister Hall, dodgeball and SUB renovations. Although I felt isolated from these issues as a student with no attachment to "old Lister" or the legacy of dodgeball, I thought elections season would be a chance for all students to get involved. I must admit I was wrong.

For those uninitiated in campus politics, the election appears out of the blue. Sleek campaign posters materialize overnight and lectures suddenly feature unsolicited sales pitches. For those who thought university politics would provide the opportunity to get involved, it was disappointing. Like many first-years, I would have willingly gotten involved in the planning and campaigning stages. But, we heard nothing of it until the signs fell from the sky and landed in Quad.

Instead of getting fresh ideas and new people involved, the current system functions by keeping those on the outside in the dark until the campaigning begins. Then we're supposed to miraculously become fully informed and ready to vote within a week. Yes, there are forums, and candidates have websites, but it all comes too little, too late.

It's easy to say first years will be more aware in the future and can get involved in subsequent years, but I think the low voter turnout in the last election tells another story. The numbers say people do not go on to become involved in SU poli-



**WHAT IS THIS?** The system wasn't designed for first-years. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: AMIRALI SHARIFI

tics over their academic career. It appears people don't catch up to the SU wagon after they get left behind.

This state of affairs is a shame. The act of democracy should bring people together as a whole to have a genuine discussion. Candidates giving identical speeches promising to "stand up for students" in first-year classes is not getting people involved. This problem would be easy to rectify — if the SU properly advertised how its elections are going to occur and gave people the tools and connections needed to learn about and get involved with a candidate they support, it would be easy to get new students active early in their academic lives.

Instead, individuals like me, who would like to get involved but were unaware and unable to navigate the complex and nebulous

Students' Union are left out right from the beginning. The entire student population loses out when new students are disenfranchised from the SU, never bringing forward what could be great ideas and new energy. If we could get people involved in their first year at the university, within a few years the voter turnout could be far above the abysmal low it is now.

We should strive to make the system more open to new students who would like to get involved but must fight the challenges involved to integrate themselves into this potentially lively and mind expanding event.

Regrettably, if current trends continue, SU elections will stay as a minority event, only attracting a small group of insiders — a state not conducive to a healthy democratic process.

“What's a budget?”



**\* IN CONTEXT:**

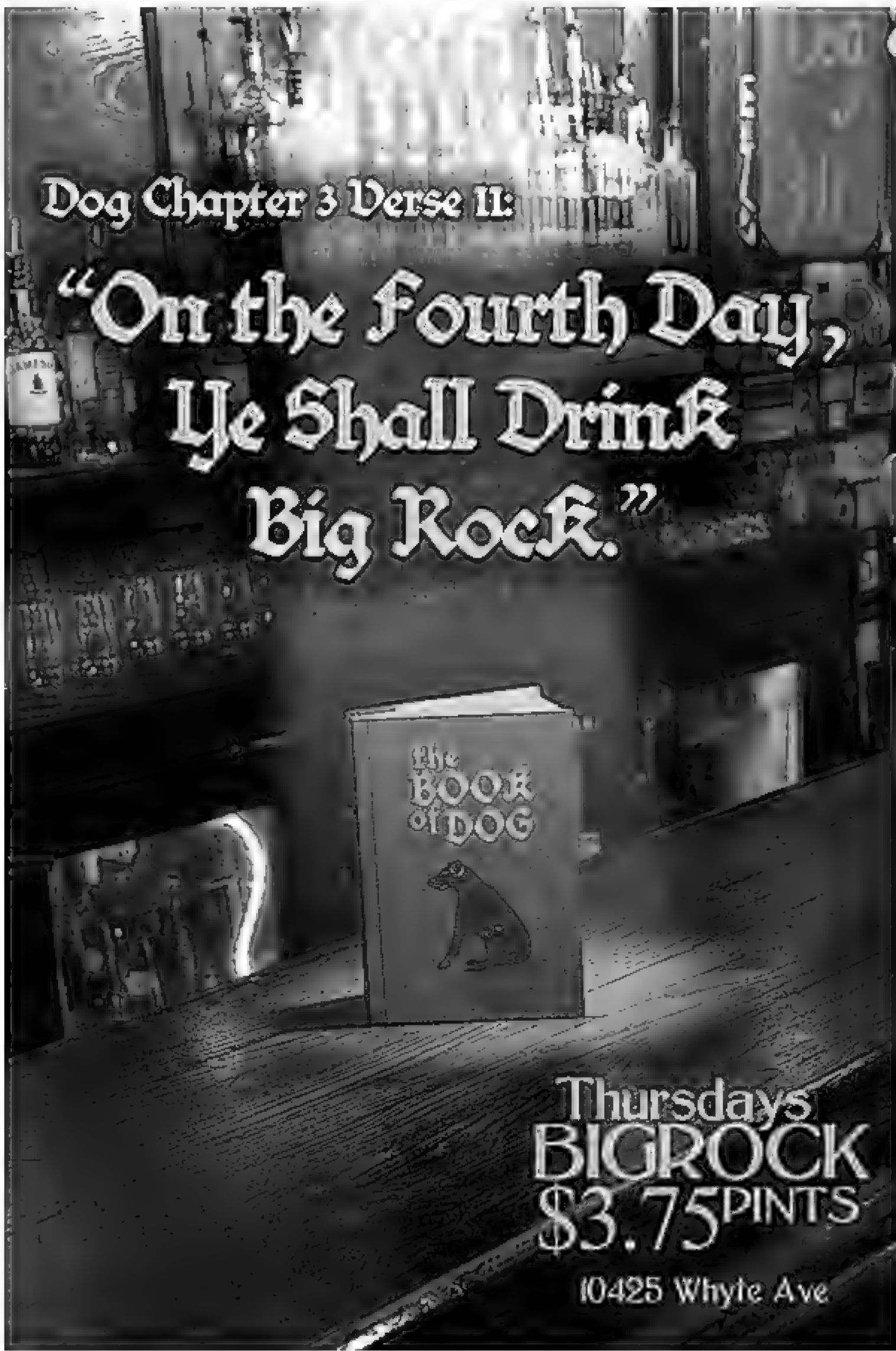
Andy Cheema was asking the other VP (Operations and Finance) candidates if they knew what their job would be.


**gateway**  
**opinion**

It's all about perspective.

MEETINGS WEDNESDAY AT 5 IN 3-04 SUB

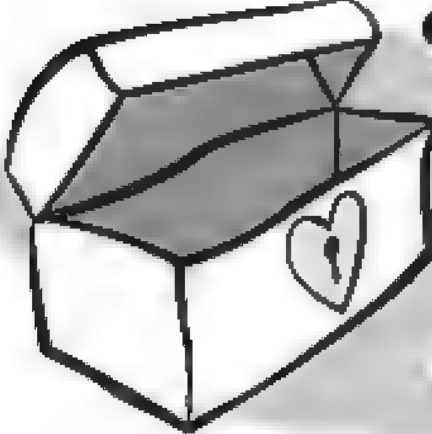






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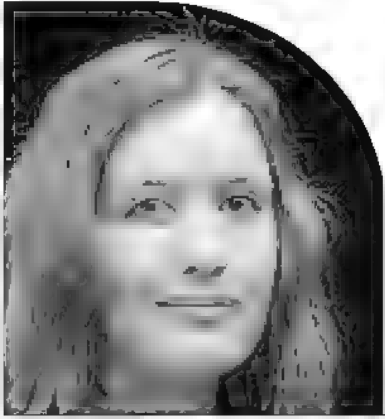
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\*EXPIRES MARCH 28/2013

# Benefits of Keystone pipeline not worth environmental risk



Jennifer Polack  
OPINION STAFF

Oil is a hot debate topic in any country with access to it. The fact that Albertans are sitting on a veritable lake of black gold has a tendency to blind us to the risks associated with oil extraction, particularly with regards to transportation. When it comes to the Keystone XL pipeline, Albertans need to look past the dollar signs to take a close look at the environmental, political and economic risks associated with such a project.

Despite lawsuits from oil refineries and major criticism from environmentalists across North America, discussions about fast-tracking construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline haven't even been critically reviewed. Immediate construction is still regarded as a priority for both sides of the Canada-United States border. As is only appropriate with projects with potential for massive amounts of revenue, Canadian and American administration is willing to disregard red tape and abandon bureaucracy in the pursuit of profit.

Granted, the idea of a single project generating revenue and creating jobs is appealing to any administration. To the United States, especially considering

they're in the economic toilet, it's nothing short of intoxicating. But the downsides of the project are either being swept under the rug, left unaddressed or ignored. Risks associated with inadequate oil spill response plans and greenhouse gas concerns are being treated like they don't exist. Unfortunately just because something is ignored doesn't mean it will go away, and the Keystone XL pipeline has the potential to be the environmental mistake of the decade.

One of the most frustrating aspects of the attempt to rush the pipeline's construction is the band-aid solutions proposed to address environmental concerns.

The original route of the pipeline, across the Sandhills region in Nebraska and the Ogallala Aquifer, reveals TransCanada's complete lack of appreciation for environmental concerns. Not only would a single leak from the pipeline poison an area that provides drinking water for more than two million people, but would also transform the delicate ecosystem into something that would more closely resemble a glass of tobacco spit. The pipeline also has the potential to leave a dark oily mark on the more than 160 kilometres of Native Ameri-

can reservations it passes through. Contamination of water sources, sacred sites and other areas that could directly affect the health of citizens are all shortfalls of the pipeline that have been protested but hardly addressed.

One of the most frustrating aspects of the attempt to rush the pipeline's construction is the band-aid solutions proposed to address environmental concerns. There are assertions that the Keystone XL pipeline will go above and beyond requirements needs to make sure it's the safest and most environmentally friendly crude oil pipeline our nation has ever seen. But there's always room for error — not to mention a re-examination of the conditions proposed revealed they were only a reassertion of the minimum standards required to construct a pipeline such as the Keystone.

In reality, the Keystone XL pipeline is another insult to Canadians, particularly Albertans, from the United States. The benefits of the pipeline profit our neighbors to the south far more than us, and corporate greed is the main factor driving its construction, not Canadians' economic needs or environmental concern.

The trade-off for American jobs and a stab at economic recuperation is risking the health and security of more than 3,456 kilometres of valuable natural resources, and the empty promise of a fat wallet is hardly worth the risk of damaging the environment.



## #3LF three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at [threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca), tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at [www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree](http://www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree)

Dude you are 40 you can't hit on 20 year olds.

I want grey cat. Ross make grey cat real

Students in Arts have felt the budget cuts because their faculty does not bring in research dollars.

Tony is reckless AS!!!!

Whoever left the Valentines in HUB - those were awesome and totally made my day.

Here's a tip: if the girl next to you is gagging, it's time to get rid of the eau de booze/weed/really bad BO. And no, the gum didn't help.

Ho's-Ho's: try the rice (NOT chow mein), orange chicken, mixed vegetables. Last one is optional.

embarrassing memories! while in lecture! la la! not a nervous tick just trying to forget! la la!

How can the 'Fashion Streeters' afford clothing from Anthropologie and Tommy Hilfiger? Seriously? Aren't students supposed to be poor?

schwarzenegger for pope metal gear...

Boyfriend for hire: Charming, witty, intelligent Will work for cuddles

please Kindly agree to emerge.

I would rate the back of your head about 9 puppies out of 5 llamas

Airheads. All of them. Every last one.

Call up to the voice of reason and got the answering machine

Be cruel to me cause I'm a fool for you

Topless models, doing sephamore, wave there flags as she walks by and get ignored.

If you're gonna try to walk on water, make sure you wear your comfortable shoes.

I am a genius, Unobstructed uniqueness, Very large penis.

Crotches kill! Don't sext and drive.

I'm only shy because I think you're awesome.

Rolling around at the speed of sound Got places to go gotta follow my rainbow!

Butts

Stop sitting on your ass. Do something with your life. However pathetic it may be.

If I had a nickel for every friend that you have, I would not even have a nickel.

Don't spend your entire life going to University. You will end up being a whining asshole who thinks that you deserve the perfect job and you don't.

Misery loves company. And your are going to have lots of company. Three lines free is really great. I love you guys.

suzukiboy why did you delete your account? we coulda hit it off in ed basement </3

Can't wait to be out of this hell hole we call the U of A. Sayonara suckers!

Grey Cat is the best comic ever.

The Top Gear UK theme is Jessica by The Allman Brothers Band and it is objectively the greatest song ever written.

Josh Le should just hold all of the council positions because of that glorious mustache.

Dicks

I've been following Metaleeto for years. I think it's time for me and all my Metalee-bros to start a fan club. Kenny, don't feel embarrassed that you forgot about a midterm. I'm sure someone else has done it sometime somewhere.

UALberta Confessions is better than 3LF. This is my adios to you, Gateway, I've moved on.

Someone stole my secret study spot!.....it's okay, I'll just keep knocking on the door and barging into the room EVERYDAY

FUCKING DAY UNTIL YOU GTFO OF MY SECRET ROOM!!!!

MUAHAHAHAHAHAHAH!!!! >:D

This reading week I lived my one-man bukkake fantasy

My peers ridicule me for trying to find depth in everything. Depth in anything is the only thing that keeps me going. Everyone loves the dream, but I kill it.

Gary was here

Ash is a loser

I want to new friends because my friends suck ass.

Fuck I wish you would just shut up forever

I want to cheat on my girlfriend so badly, but I'm too lazy to break up with her. I'm such a loser.

I cough blood regularly but I don't go to the doctor.

Shitty poetry:

Content three lines free deserves, Not the one it needs.

The Gateway reserves the right to refuse publication of any 3LF submission it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature.



# STUDENTS' COUNCIL & GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL ELECTION

## March 21&22

Nomination Deadline  
March 12 @ 5pm

**run**

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Nomination Packages for all positions are now available.  
Pick yours up from the third floor of SUB or access it online!

FACULTY	STUDENTS' COUNCIL SEATS	GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL SEATS
	1	2
AGRICULTURAL, LIFE & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES	6	8
ARTS	2	2
BUSINESS	3	4
EDUCATION	4	5
ENGINEERING	1	1
LAW	1	2
MEDICINE & DENTISTRY	1	1
NATIVE STUDIES	1	2
NURSING	1	N/A
OPEN STUDIES	1	1
PHYSICAL EDUCATION & RECREATION	1	1
PHARMACY	1	1
FACULTE SAINT-JEAN	7	9
SCIENCE		

 UASU ELECTIONS
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 UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA  
STUDENTS' UNION



# A prime collection of potential pious papal prodigies



Opinion  
Staff  
GROUP COMMENTARY

Pope Benedict's sudden resignation has come as a shock to Catholics all over the world. Since a successor hasn't been chosen yet, *The Gateway* has a few suggestions to help the Catholic Church choose a new Pope.

**Hannah Madsen**

In this year's religious/political conclave, there's one candidate in particular who's got a bit of a dark side to him and is an obvious shoe-in: Palpatine. He's got a hooded cloak and a face similar to the former Pope Benedict, but is more ruthless and prepared to usher in a new Dark Age for the Catholic Church.

When he becomes Pope, there will be cookies to entice people to the Dark Side and all kinds of perks, including an increase in nepotism and the ability for Cardinals to telekinetically strangle their underlings. How can we lose? The only downside to Palpatine as a candidate for the papacy is that he's already quite old, and probably won't have a long stretch as leader — just like Pope Benedict XVI.

**Cameron Lewis**

One guy who should definitely be filing an application for Pope is good old George Feeny from *Boy Meets World*. Feeny would steer the Catholic Church in the right direction with



**GOOD, GOOD. LET THE EUCHARIST FLOW THROUGH YOU** Emperor Palpatine would be a an force reckon with in the Catholic Church. ILLUSTRATION: STEFANO JLN

his infinite wisdom about life's great challenges such as growing up, how to handle difficulties in relationships with friends, family and significant others, and always doing the right thing — even if it seems hard at the time. These are core values all of us could use some help with, and Pope Feeny would be the perfect guy to guide us.

Controversy around homosexuals, minorities and women in the Catholic Church are swirling out of control right now. It's clear the Church needs a hero. Demonstrated by his fairness, positive example

setting and ability to do the right thing, it's pretty obvious George would be able to steer the Church out of these murky waters and back into a positive light.

If the big guy Himself or his secretaries are reading this, I certainly hope they agree that George would be an excellent Pope.

**Ryan Bromsgrove**

We last saw Solid Snake at the end of *Metal Gear Solid 4: Guns of the Patriots*. Due to his accelerated aging, he was an old man with

maybe a year left to live. Well, I've got the perfect retirement package for Old Snake: Pope.

The Vatican is now more badass. There you are, a cardinal about to break the celibacy vow with that cute nun you had your eye on, when Old Snake emerges from his cardboard box disguise and chokes you til you fall unconscious. That'll learn ya.

Oh, what's that? Ran out of wine and planning to steal some from the papal cellar? Nice try. Unfortunately, Pope Snake's still wearing his octocamo and blends in perfectly with his surroundings.

That ain't a bottle of wine you just grabbed — it's Snake's dick. And now he's pissed.

So then you're in bed, alone and feeling lonely. Maybe you start touching yourself. Not so fast: masturbation is a sin. Pope Snake will be there, hiding in the closet, watching over you, and ready to hit you with a tranquilizer dart.

"A killer can't be Pope," you say? Sounds like you never did a no-kill run. Get yourself back to Shadow Moses island and try again. And don't forget: Snake has God's codec frequency.

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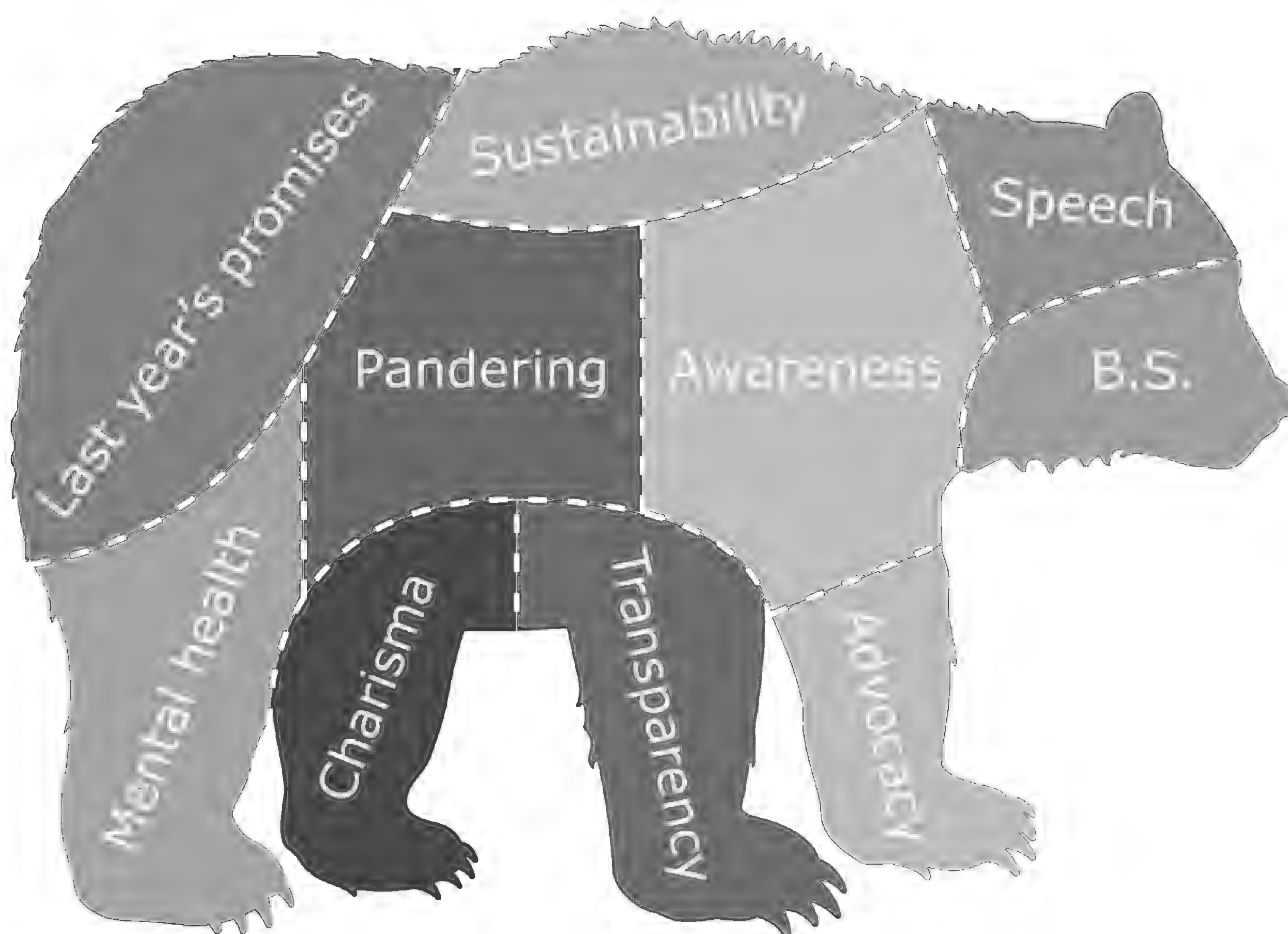
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(12oz pints)





# ELECTION / DISSECTION

compiled by April Hudson and Michelle Mark  
photos by Selena Phillips-Boyle

Student politics can be exhausting for students who don't speak the language. And with this year's presidential race featuring two experienced, well-matched politicians, even students who have a background in the public sphere could find themselves confused. *The Gateway's* Election Dissection brings together three SU experts to act as your translators — and to go through each candidate's platform with a fine-toothed comb. News Editor April Hudson and Online Reporter Michelle Mark sat down with the panel shortly into the campaign period to analyze each race and determine which candidates, if any, deserve to represent you for the 2013/2014 school year.

## Panel expresses disappointment in lack of both female candidates and contested races

The discussion kicked off with the panel brainstorming reasons for the continuing trend of all-male executives as well as this year's lack of opposed candidates.

Considering last year's hotly contested races, Ross suggested that perhaps years of heavily and lightly contested elections tend to alternate.

"It seems to go in waves," he said. "We had the race two years ago where only one race was contested ... then there was the explosion where (there were) two to four candidates for every race last year."

"That's what we're probably seeing again this year: just everyone's trying to posture themselves and time themselves appropriately."

Ross also described the trend of all-male executives as a strange one, pointing out that most faculty and department associations on campus have a fairly even gender split, with females regularly filling presidential or vice-presidential roles.

However, Eldridge countered that since the Students' Union is a more prestigious organization than faculty associations, the lack of female candidates is only to be expected.

"I think that's the trend you see in corporations and businesses — it's that the higher you go, the fewer females that there are," she said.

"The closer to the top it is, the less likely there'll be females there, and I think we're seeing the exact same thing."

Wa Kaai described her own experience as a female councillor considering running for an executive position, saying that she decided not to run out of uncertainty of what the Students' Union could provide for her.

"(I'm) not saying that it wouldn't have been a good idea for me to be an executive, but I think the more that I talked to women involved in the Students' Union, it also tends to factor in that way," she said.

"A lot of them have goals to achieve and life plans, and sometimes the Students' Union doesn't factor in, and that's okay."

Ross pointed out that the lack of female executives in itself could be deterring women who might otherwise consider running.

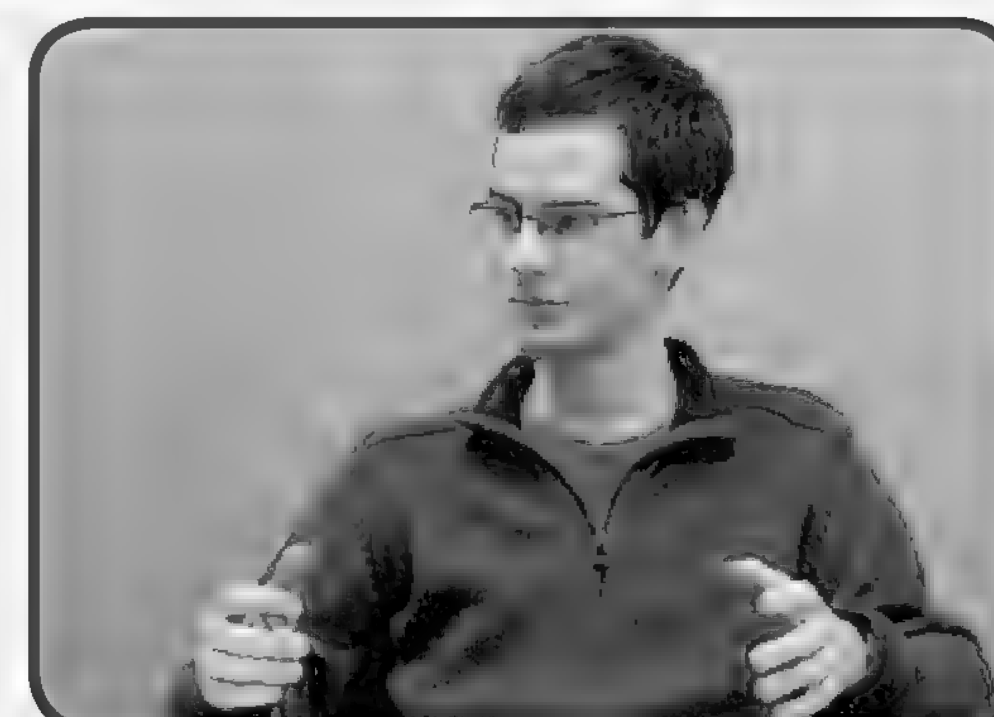
## The Panel

**Alex Eldridge** is a current graduate student in Library and Information Studies. She was *The Gateway's* Editor-in-Chief for the 2011/2012 news year, and served as the Senior News Editor for the 2010/2011 year. In addition to covering the Students' Union during her time at *The Gateway*, she followed Students' Union politics and elections closely throughout her undergraduate degree.



**Ngina wa Kaai** sat on Students' Council for two years as a representative for the Faculty of Education. She served as the campaign manager for previous elections candidates, including Arts student Dorothy Roberts and current Chief Returning Officer Farid Iskandar.

**Michael Ross** is currently a graduate student at the U of A, but he still keeps a close eye on the Students' Union. After serving as an Engineering councillor for two years on Council, Ross was also last year's Speaker. He keeps a blog, which sometimes addresses political issues, and has been writing for *The Gateway* since leaving his Council duties and beginning his graduate degree.





“You’re getting to a point where if you’re looking at things in a role model term ... it’s been a while since we had a strong female executive,” he said.

“Maybe this year, there are people running who just haven’t seen a female candidate.”

President

**Anthony Goertz**  
**Petros Kusmu**  
**Saadiq Sumar**  
**Horse with a Gun (joke candidate)**

While the panel brought up several appealing platform points from each of the two serious contenders for president — Petros Kusmu and Saadiq Sumar — there was general agreement that both candidates had confusing platform goals and overused hollow rhetoric in their campaigns.

In Kusmu’s case, the panel was most attracted to his idea of exploring the implementation of one-week “Block Courses” which would be held just before the commencement of Fall and Winter terms.

While they agreed the idea was an ambitious one and would likely take more than a one-year term as president to fully establish, the panel ultimately supported it, praising its uniqueness.

“I think that’s a really great idea, and he backs it up well. It’s been going on at the University of Calgary, so why not here?” said Eldridge.

“That’s a good argument for me — I thought that was his probably strongest platform point.”

However, the panel was unsure about other aspects of Kusmu’s platform, such as his plans to create an innovation fund, which they all agreed was too vague to warrant approval.

“I’m wondering where the money (for the

fund) is going to come from. Is it coming from rich alumni? Is it coming from government?” wa Kaai said.

“If you’re going to create a fund, are you going to create a (Dedicated Fee Unit)? Because that’s going to involve another referendum and another year.”

“Overall ... there’s not enough detail for me. A couple good, unique ideas, but beyond that, nothing really that new,” said Eldridge.

When the panel switched their focus to Sumar, however, they agreed that although Sumar’s platform contained the specificity Kusmu’s lacked, what they saw as the gimmicky nature of some of his ideas made them wary.

“One thing I do appreciate about (Sumar’s) platform is that he does have specific checkbox things,” said Ross. “You can, at the end of the year, see: did you or did you not bring more animals to campus?”

Eldridge was more skeptical, saying that although mental health on campus is an important issue to address, pet therapy is a superficial way to campaign for it.

“It’s specific, for sure ... but when I heard him say that on the Gateway video, ‘llamas and birds,’ I was like, ‘Really? We’re going to elect you because you’re going to bring more animals to campus?’”

The panel also took issue with Sumar’s split between his three campaign themes — campus pride, campus care and affordability of education — and his three platform goals of protecting students, health initiatives and sustainability.

Unsure about the purpose behind his inclusion of platform themes, the panel criticized Sumar for using what they perceived as buzzwords instead of concrete points, and for failing to explain the connections between the themes and the platform itself.

“In his bio, he’s like, ‘I have three themes.’

He stops talking about themes, says, ‘I have three points,’ and he talks about his points,” Ross said.

“It’s really confusing. He has three themes, and then three separate points, and it’s just a really weird way to split it apart,” said Eldridge.

Sumar’s other points, such as academic programming during Reading Week and removing the mandatory nature of the meal plan, were also a miss with the panel. Ross added that Sumar’s idea of doing a waste audit in the SUB food court didn’t go far enough.

“There’s this weird thing that some candidates have had where they say, ‘I want to implement an audit’ or ‘I want to assess something.’ Often, you do the audit, and then just stop,” he said.

“Great, so we know we waste ‘x’ number of mexi-fries a day ... but after that, what do you do? It has to be followed up by something.”

As for Anthony Goertz and Horse with a Gun, the panel described the latter as one of the best joke candidates seen in recent years, but were baffled by Goertz, who has claimed he is only running to receive the funding allotted to candidates for campaigning purposes.

“I feel like he’s trying to make a point, but isn’t making a point at all at the same time,” Ross said. “He could actually be out there saying, ‘Look what I can do with \$550.’ But instead, he has ‘Anthony is a person,’ and that’s it.”

“Short of saying, ‘This is what I can do,’ he isn’t exposing any real flaws in the system, I don’t think. He isn’t really messing it up as I feel he could, if he’d been trying to,” he added.

Although the panel agreed the battle for the presidency will likely be a close race between Kusmu and Sumar, they projected Kusmu as the likelier winner due to his variety of connections on campus.

**Will win: Petros Kusmu – three votes**  
**Should win: Petros Kusmu – one vote,**  
**Undecided – two votes**

**Vice-President (Academic)**

**Dustin Chelen**

Despite Chelen’s obvious experience as the current vice-president (Academic), the panel was instantly skeptical of both his desire to re-run and what they viewed as lacklustre platform goals.

Suggesting that Chelen’s lack of competition may have made him lazy this election season, the panel agreed that although he is more than qualified, so far his campaign has fallen flat.

“This is just a personal issue of mine whenever someone re-runs for the same position — why didn’t you do it the first time around?” said Ross.

“I mean, you had a whole year of looking at textbooks being expensive, and now you’re saying, ‘Okay, this time we’re going to do cheap textbooks.’”

“I just feel like he didn’t really have much to say at all,” Eldridge agreed.

The panel speculated that Chelen’s experience and track record from his current term would have guaranteed his victory even if there had been other candidates; however, they agreed that more effort on Chelen’s part would have boosted him even further.

Wa Kaai said that although she still thinks Chelen is the best person for the job, his platform was sorely lacking in both details and unique ideas.

“This is, essentially, ‘We’re going to stick with the status quo,’” she said.

“It just would’ve been nice if he had his feet to the fire a little bit more and really put in some solid promises,” Ross added.



**“I’m wondering where the money is going to come from ... If you’re going to create a fund, are you going to create a (Dedicated Fee Unit)? Because that’s going to involve another referendum and another year.”**

**~ Ngina Wa Kaii**  
on presidential candidate Petros Kusmu’s idea to create an “innovation fund”



**“I was like, ‘Really? We’re going to elect you because you’re going to bring more animals to campus?’”**

**~ Alexandria Eldridge**  
on presidential candidate Saadiq Sumar’s promise of more pet therapy days



**Will win: Dustin Chelen – three votes**  
**Should win: Dustin Chelen – three votes**

**Vice-President (External)**

**Adam Woods**

The panel was impressed by Woods’ experience in Students’ Union external policy, as well as the character he has shown by re-running after his defeat last year.

“A lot of the time you hear someone in a campaign saying, ‘I love everything about the Students’ Union; I want to help everything about the Students’ Union.’ And then they lose and they have nothing to do with it ever again,” said Ross.

“I definitely have to give him credit for saying, ‘You know, I still actually want this. I’ll work with you guys for a year, build my credentials and then I’ll try it again.’ And that’s impressive, I have to say.”

However, wa Kaai said that although his platform was strong, it remained light on specifics, especially for his point on mental health funding.

“I am wondering if, hypothetically, let’s say he gets the funding that he asks for. How is it going to be implemented? A little more detail there — what is he going to do?” she said.

Ross was also uncertain about Woods’ campaign, which he said may have alienated voters with its obscurity had there been more candidates running against him.

“Because he was on the inside, it seems like he’s picked three issues that no one knows about (if they) aren’t already on the inside,” he said.

“The point he keeps making that no one knows what a mandatory non-instructional fee is ... the fact that he’s having to explain what those are during the campaign is sort of

just a weird strategy.”

Eldridge disagreed, saying that Woods’ insider knowledge isn’t necessarily a bad thing.

“(Woods) is quite passionate,” she said. “I think that even if this stuff isn’t really something that average students can connect with, they can connect with him. Because he clearly cares.”

**Will win: Adam Woods – three votes**  
**Should win: Adam Woods – three votes**

**Vice-President (Student Life)**

**William Lau**  
**Kevin Smith**

While Vice-President (Student Life) is only one of only two contested races in this year’s SU elections, the panellists deemed both candidates’ platforms wholly uninspiring, with a lack of new ideas for the portfolio.

They agreed that the fact neither candidate had a working website by the second day of campaigning was an issue, though for Lau at least, this is because of a pre-campaigning penalty.

They also agreed that one refreshing factor in this year’s Student Life race was the appearance of two newer faces.

“I’m glad to see no execs running for this race,” Ross said.

Wa Kaai critiqued Lau’s platform point of a case competition calling for proposals “to strategically combat the broad topics of student engagement.” In the case competition, each student would create a poster to display their work at a symposium, with the winning team receiving a grant to implement their ideas. Lau has touted this idea as a means of engaging the larger student body.

“I think that’s the opposite of engaging students. (Lau) is going to present something to a particular group of students who would be of the mind of entering case competitions in the first place, or who would be interested in these things,” wa Kaai said.

“(He’s) not engaging all students in the first place — that’s putting him at a disadvantage.”

The panellists also brought up a comment Lau made in *The Gateway*’s Q&A interview, in which he alluded to a strategy he did not want to publicize, for fear students would view it as “vile.”

“You’re telling someone you have a secret agenda, and you’re telling us it’s bad,” Ross noted.

Turning to Smith, the three panellists took a look at his plan to increase awareness for campus events — a part of Smith’s campaign that isn’t backed up with tangible ideas.

“Having worked with campus events a lot this year, I’m very curious to see how he’s planning on increasing awareness for all these events,” Ross said.

“It’s not a bad idea to get people out, but ... it’s just the same old thing you always hear.”

Wa Kaai agreed, adding that the students who are actively interested in getting involved on campus will probably already be involved.

“It’s the students who go home every day at 4 p.m. because they don’t have class anymore, and they don’t know what goes on on campus at night. It’s those students we need to engage,” she said.

However, Smith’s idea for re-establishing an SU street team to do classroom announcements and one-on-one conversations was a tipping point for the panellists, who agreed it was a solid idea.

**Will win: Smith — three votes**  
**Should win: Smith — three votes**

**Vice-President (Operations and Finance)**

**Josh Le**

After some deliberation, panellists were torn on whether uncontested candidate Josh Le’s platform was just right or too underwhelming.

“I don’t mind an OpsFi candidate that says, ‘Stay the course,’” Ross said. “It’s frightening if an OpsFi candidate were to say, ‘Let’s radically change something,’ because you have one year in there.”

Eldridge disagreed, stating there was some room in Le’s platform for new ideas, and he didn’t deliver them.

“I feel like he could have given a few new, small ideas for things he wanted to see in the SUB renovation,” she explained.

Eldridge and her fellow panellists also took issue with Le’s point about reviewing SU businesses, which they considered to already be part of the Operations and Finance portfolio, and which did not address RATT, Dewey’s or the possibility of a new campus food vendor option.

“I’ve always wondered why we don’t have some sort of vegetarian, vegan, halal or kosher vendor on campus, and why can’t the Students’ Union provide that? An SU-run, strictly vegan or vegetarian vendor would be great to see,” wa Kaai said.

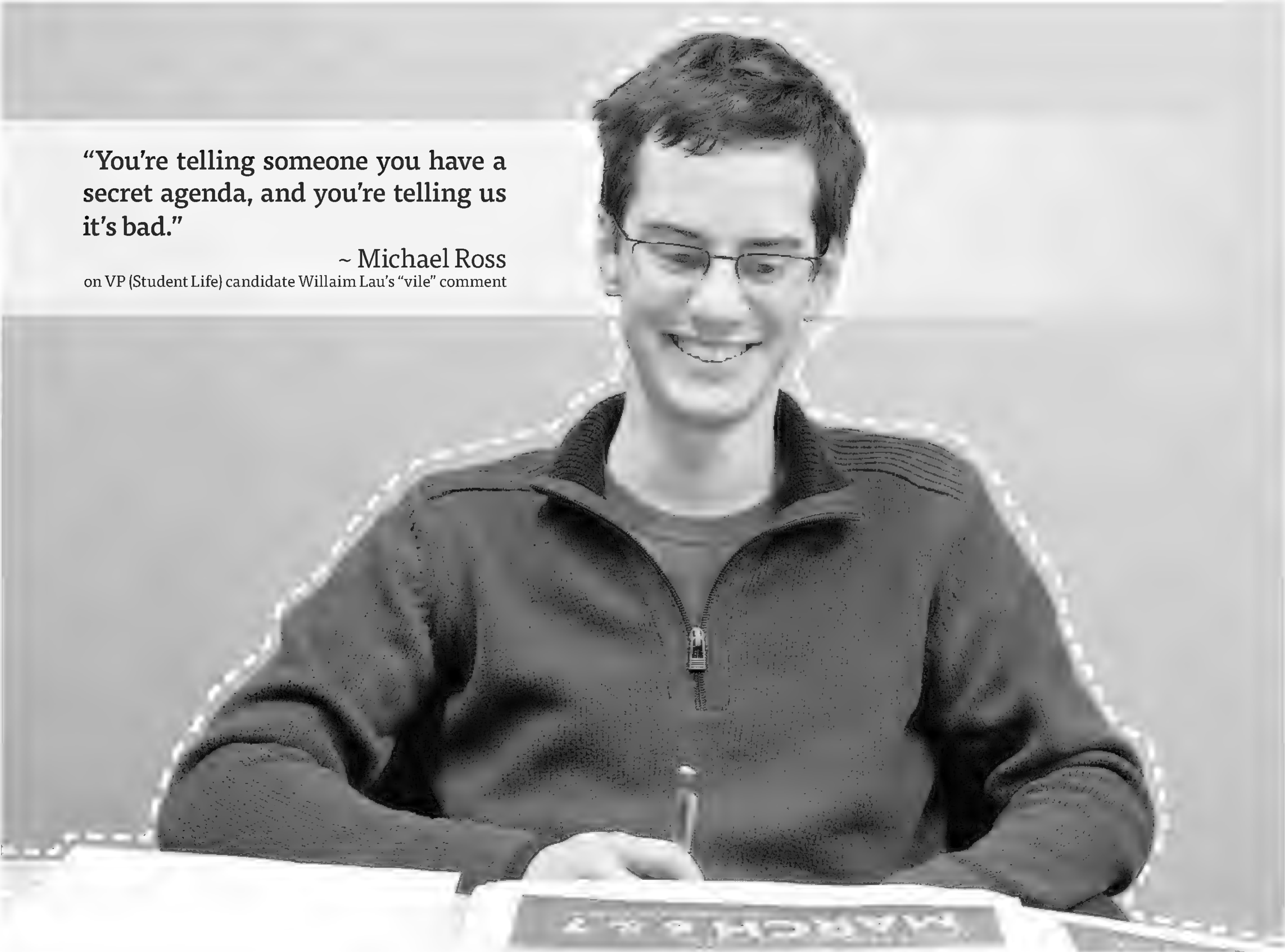
However, Le’s platform did allude to the pursuit of localized options, which Eldridge thought would not apply well to SUB.

“At least he’s trying to make you see how everything works in one big circle, because everything is linking back to ‘think local,’” wa Kaai countered. “That’s not a bad idea — I’m just interested to see how he’d do that.”

A point in Le’s favour appeared when Eldridge brought up his extroverted

“You’re telling someone you have a secret agenda, and you’re telling us it’s bad.”

~ Michael Ross  
on VP (Student Life) candidate Willaim Lau’s “vile” comment





personality, which he has been using as a point for his campaign.

“It’s not that I have anything against introverted VP (OpsFi) people, but I like that he’s talking about making the position a little more high profile,” she said. “That might even help with getting more candidates interested in this position.”

One point the panellists wanted to see in Le’s platform was an acknowledgement of the issue of affordable food on campus, which has received much discussion but no solution.

**Will win: Le — three votes**  
**Should win: Le — three votes**

**Board of Governors Representative**

**Brent Kelly**

Running uncontested for his second term in office, incumbent Board of Governors Representative Brent Kelly’s platform struck the panellists as remarkably toned down from what he ran on last year.

Although approving of his change in tone, panellists feared his platform was more SU-oriented than it should be, since his position is not an executive position and is related more closely to the U of A’s administrative BoG body than to the SU.

However, the panellists also felt Kelly brought some good ideas for reform within the SU to the table, especially regarding a point about mandatory tabling for councillors as a means of reaching out to the student body.

“He did do the tabling himself this year, so obviously he is trying to lead by example,” Ross said.

“It’s a step up from a blog (or) a Twitter account. If it actually happens, that would be pretty cool.”

However, Ross noted this was one of the things that does not fall under the BoG Rep

purview.

In regards to Kelly’s push to Council to recognize its meetings take place on Aboriginal territory, which he has included in all his reports this year, the panellists agreed it was strange his current platform has made no mention of it.

“Presumably, this has been an important issue to him over the last year, and you’d think this would be the easiest way for him to get the message out: to talk about it during the campaign,” Ross said.

Kelly has also been running on a platform of creating a place for students to go to learn more about the SU and to get more involved, a subject the panellists agreed had many avenues of action already.

“It’s not really in his purview at all,” Eldridge repeated. “I don’t mind the idea of a new way, though. Everyone’s talking about the SU connecting more with students.”

**Will win: Kelly — three votes**  
**Should win: Kelly — three votes**

**U-Pass Referendum**

To finish off the elections discussion, the panellists talked about the upcoming student referendum for the new U-Pass agreement, which will see the price of the student transit pass rise over the next four years.

“Beyond the U-Pass, I wouldn’t take the bus,” Eldridge said. “It’s unfortunate that prices are going up, but it’s still way cheaper than getting a bus pass every month. It’s nice that it’s going to be Spring and Summer as well now.”

In the face of no massive discontent or concerted effort to stop it, the panellists agreed the referendum was likely to pass by a large margin.

“The prices go up — they always go up,” Ross said. “Frankly, they’re (only) going up by four non-U-Pass bus trips a year.”

**Final Predictions**

**President**  
**Petros Kusmu**  
**(unanimous)**

**Vice-President (Academic)**  
**Dustin Chelen**  
**(unanimous)**

**Vice-President (External)**  
**Adam Woods**  
**(unanimous)**

**Vice-President (Student Life)**  
**Kevin Smith**  
**(unanimous)**

**Vice-President (Operations & Finance)**  
**Josh Le**  
**(unanimous)**

**Board of Governors Representative**  
**Brent Kelly**  
**(unanimous)**

**U-Pass Referendum**  
**Yes**  
**(unanimous)**

“The (U-Pass) prices go up — they always go up. Frankly, they’re (only) going up by four non-U-Pass bus trips a year.”

~ Michael Ross  
on the U-Pass cost increase







**C**ampus is littered with posters from candidates desperately vying for your vote and making a decision can be tough. Now you can check out what our team of professional poster critics have to say about each candidate. We don't care about the actual races; we're just here to ridicule some posters.

Our panel this year is: Darcy Ropchan, Ross Vincent, Madeline Smith, Ryan Bromsgrove, Jennifer Polack and Adrian Lahola-Chomiak.

## President

### PETROS KUSMU

**Darcy:** First up we have Petros Kusmu: "In Petros we trust."

**Adrian:** It looks like Petros is trying to sell some wonder tonic or something like that.

**Ryan:** It cures what ails ya. Do you have achy joints?

**Ross:** I'm skeptical. Will this make me more attractive to women?

**Darcy:** I'd say that out of all the presidential candidates, this is the most interesting poster.

**Adrian:** It's definitely the most unique.

**Ryan:** It kind of looks like a football field.

**Darcy:** He's got the U of A colours — the green and gold

**Ross:** It looks cool, but I think it kind of blends into the background because everything is green and gold on campus. And he doesn't really pop because he's green as well.

**Darcy:** He's also handing out the Petros dollar bills on campus.

**Madeline:** He's green there too.

**Ryan:** His general campaign theme seems to be money.

**Adrian:** 'I will take money from you.' Or is it 'give me money?'

**Ross:** Yeah what is he saying? Is he money?

**Adrian:** He's on the money.

**Ryan:** I think he wanted an excuse to use "in Kusmu we trust."

**Ross:** Is he implying that he's God?

**Everyone:** Uh-oh.

**Ross:** Not only is he God, but he deserves to be on the dollar bill as well — which we don't have in Canada.

**Jenn:** Maybe he'll implement a dollar bill.

**Ross:** Petros bucks?

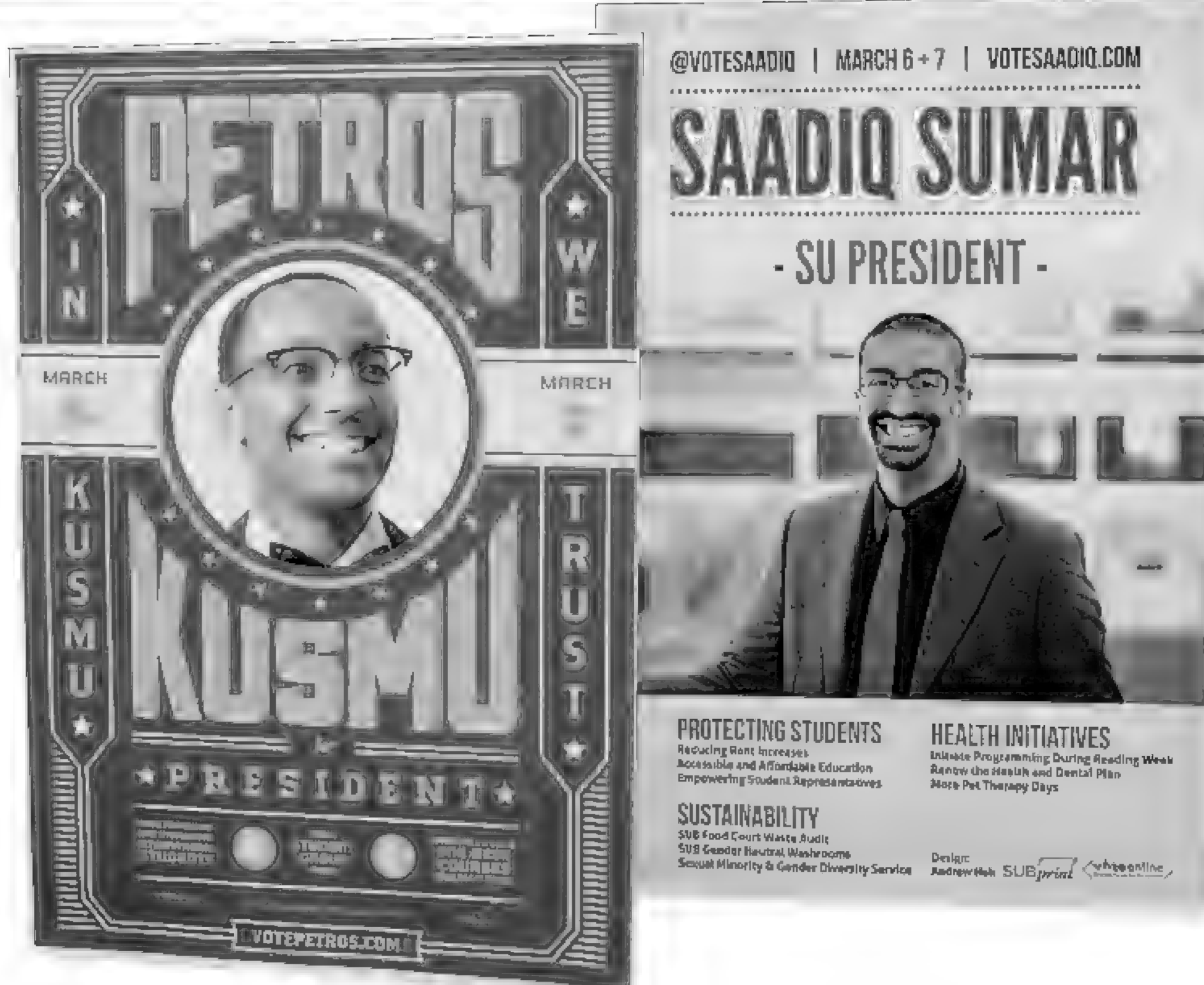
**Adrian:** So he's advocating for combining church and state. That's the whole message of the poster.

**Darcy:** His votepetros.com link just takes you to his Facebook page, so he doesn't even have a website.

**Ryan:** Just like last year. But he does have that 30-page green and gold paper. Green and gold, guys, get it? Because we're at the University of Alberta.

**Madeline:** His platform points are kind of hiding at the bottom of his poster, but I suppose his face is more important to have up there.

**Adrian:** I didn't even know there were







platform points until you guys pointed them out.  
**Jenn:** They're just assuming that everyone has eyesight like pilots.

**SAADIQ SUMAR**

**Darcy:** Like most candidates, Saadiq has the 'standing in front of CCIS' thing going on.  
**Ross:** It is our nicest building.  
**Darcy:** He's got the trademark Saadiq smile.  
**Ryan:** That winning smile  
**Adrian:** He's also got that trademark out-of-focus background.  
**Madeline:** I was just thinking that last year when Saadiq was running for VP (Student Life) he was just kind of hanging out in the business atrium with a hat, t-shirt and a really bushy beard, and now this year he's cleaned himself up for president. He's now got a suit on with a tie.  
**Adrian:** Essentially, our criticism is that he's looking fine.  
**Jenn:** He kind of looks like Billy Joe Armstrong from Green Day with the black shirt and red tie.  
**Madeline:** His brown jacket is not matching his shirt though.  
**Jenn:** Doesn't Saadiq know that you can't match brown with black?  
**Darcy:** Like every other candidate, we have sustainability as a platform point, with SUB gender neutral washrooms and sexual minority and gender diversity services.  
**Madeline:** What do the last two platform points have to do with sustainability?  
**Ryan:** He addresses that point on his website, but I don't really buy it.  
**Madeline:** He could have just put that under a social justice point or something like that.  
**Darcy:** He does want more pet therapy days though.  
**Adrian:** "More pet therapy days" — those four words will win him the election. People are going to see that and say, "Well, I'm not going to vote against pet therapy days."  
**Ryan:** The problem is that pet therapy is a university initiative. They really got behind when they realized how popular it was. Do we really need the SU advocating for this?  
**Darcy:** But he did say we could get other

animals, like cats and birds.  
**Jenn:** Who wants to pet a bird?  
**Adrian:** It's going to be hilarious when that first bird escapes. It's a bird — the second it gets into open space, it's going to fly away.  
**Ross:** What if they're penguins? I would pet a penguin.  
**Madeline:** If Saadiq can bring in penguins, he has my vote.  
**Darcy:** One of his points is, "empowering student representatives" — how is that going to work?  
**Madeline:** Empowering is just a good word to use.  
**Adrian:** I'm not sure student representatives should have the power they do now.  
**Madeline:** They could probably stand to be a little less empowered.



**Darcy:** His website is very plain, but I think it works.  
**Ross:** It looks very American Apparel-like.  
**Ryan:** You may notice that index of his website page takes you to his bio page, but the /bio in the URL takes you to his platform page. That'll cost you a vote from me.  
**Madeline:** It's bugging me that on his poster he has that empty space under the platforms at the bottom. He could have put more stuff in there. I'm sure he has more stuff he wants to say.



**Ryan:** It's just a well-known political thing that you don't go above three points, which is probably why he didn't split those two non-sustainability things off into their own category. If you have another category, people are just going to stop paying attention.

**HORSE WITH A GUN**

**Darcy:** A very simple poster.  
**Adrian:** Their best poster is the one with the Elmer's Glue logo on it.  
**Madeline:** The Hot to Trot one is just a rip-off of 'keep calm and carry on.'  
**Ross:** It is, but I think it looks good. They have a nice red colour and logo at the top.  
**Ryan:** It's definitely better than the joke candidates we've had in the past couple years... Dr. Horrible.  
**Madeline:** That was just uncomfortable.

**ANTHONY GOERTZ**

**Darcy:** He's not technically a joke candidate, but he's not taking it seriously. He's got a kind of anti-campaign thing going on.  
**Ryan:** It says "Don't vote for Anthony Goertz" at the bottom.  
**Darcy:** I think I will vote for him.  
**Ryan:** I think I'll vote for him too. That will show him.  
**Ross:** It's reverse psychology.

**Madeline:** What if he actually won the presidency? He's not registered as a joke candidate, so they don't have bylaws that say he can't.  
**Jenn:** Somehow I think he would be worse than Horse With a Gun.  
**Adrian:** I wish his name was on all of the posters though.  
**Ryan:** I don't know why he changed his font on some of them.  
**Adrian:** Isn't one of the fonts on them that one from the anti-piracy commercial?  
**Madeline:** You wouldn't steal the SU presidency.  
**Ryan:** Maybe he stole the font for that one.  
**Jenn:** If he didn't really want people to vote for him, he should have just used Comic Sans.

**VP (Academic)**

**DUSTIN CHELEN**

**Adrian:** It looks like he based his poster off a Powerpoint slide. It's very pleasing to the eye.  
**Ryan:** The colour scheme makes it look like it's been faded by the sun. It's been in some shop window for an entire summer, and now

it's faded.  
**Adrian:** It's symbolic of Dustin fading  
**Darcy:** I do like the 'Trust in Dustin' slogan though.  
**Ryan:** It's no 'Gellin' with Chelen.' We gave him that one and he didn't use it.  
**Darcy:** But he's not in front of CCIS.  
**Ross:** I think that might be ECHA.  
**Darcy:** It's very plain. It doesn't have any platform points on it.  
**Ryan:** He doesn't need platform points because he's the incumbent. 'Vote for more of me.'

**Ross:** He's got a nice shirt.  
**Madeline:** He's matching his clothes to his campaign colour scheme, so good job.  
**Ross:** I like that.  
**Madeline:** He's doing it better than Saadiq. Dustin is matching the white text with his white tie and he has the red shirt with the red background.

**Darcy:** His website is white and it has the "Trust in Dustin" at the top.  
**Ross:** He's got a creepy face in that website photo.  
**Madeline:** It might just be the beard though.  
**Ryan:** It kind of says, 'Hey, I've got some overpriced textbooks I could sell you, just walk into this alley.'  
**Adrian:** He should be a jazz musician or something.  
**Madeline:** That's pretty much what that beard is saying. It's a beatnik goatee.



**Madeline:** He should have written that 'compassionate university' line he's been giving on his poster. I want to know how compassionate Dustin Chelen really is.  
**Ryan:** Is he going to give me a massage?  
**Darcy:** How compassionate is he willing to be?  
**Ross:** He's going to give everyone a hug as they walk by.  
**Darcy:** He's also got a very long resumé of everything he's ever done on his website.  
**Everyone:** (upon seeing the resumé list) Oh my god.





**Ryan:** We congratulated him on that last year.  
**Adrian:** Could you imagine if you were hiring someone with that resumé? They'd be like, "Nope."  
**Madeline:** Impressed by Dustin's resumé, but not by his beard.

## VP (External)

### ADAM WOODS

**Ryan:** Last year's second place, everybody  
**Darcy:** Soon to be this year's first and only place.  
**Darcy:** Smaller poster than compared to the other candidates, and it looks like he's standing in front of CCIS again.  
**Madeline:** This is a tenfold improvement from his posters last year. It looked like he was depressed, just staring into the camera.

**Darcy:** He's wearing a suit jacket with this one and a shirt with no tie to show us that he's casual. He's business but also casual at the same time — and he has a tiny U of A pin to show us that he cares about us.  
**Ryan:** He's starting a very worrying trend there, I think. In future years it's going to be a competition over who has the bigger UAlberta pin.  
**Adrian:** I hope that becomes a thing: "I'd just like to say that I'm representing the students today by wearing a bigger pin."  
**Darcy:** And my pin is bigger than yours.  
**Ryan:** My pin clearly says University of Alberta, and his doesn't. Which university is he running for?  
**Madeline:** He also seems to have a hanky or a

pocket square there.  
**Adrian:** His pocket looks really low.  
**Jenn:** I think it's because his suit jacket is too big for him.  
**Ross:** It looks more like an envelope. Like somebody stuffed a bribe in his pocket.  
**Adrian:** Maybe those are just his notes for taking a picture: "Smile, don't look depressed."

**Darcy:** He wants to advocate for full-year provincial student employment programs.  
**Madeline:** He's going to have fun doing that now that all those things are getting cut in the summer.

**Darcy:** On his website it looks like he is coming at you.  
**Adrian:** I don't know if he's coming at you or if he's warping space around him.  
**Ross:** Either that or he's standing still and the world is moving around him.  
**Madeline:** What is that smile though? What does that say? It's the weirdest smile I've ever seen.  
**Ryan:** It's saying, "There's no one running against me; you have to vote for me."  
**Darcy:** It's very much a "U mad bro?" kind of face.  
**Madeline:** Yeah, it's the troll face in real life.  
**Ryan:** Better or worse than Andy Samberg? He's got a new look this year.  
**Madeline:** I forgot about that comparison.  
**Darcy:** He's cut his hair since last year.  
**Ryan:** Yeah, he no longer looks like Andy Samberg at all.  
**Darcy:** You're growing up, Adam.



Adam Woods Platform

## Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees

If you've ever followed a Students' Union election before, I guarantee you've heard the phrase Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees (MNIF's). This is the term used for what the University charges you on top of tuition. If you look at your fee assessment on Beartracks, you'll see the University throws an extra \$36k a semester on top of your tuition<sup>[1]</sup>. You'll also see some additional funds going to the Students' Union, but there is a major difference between how the two organizations assess and implement these fees. Anytime the Students' Union wants to apply a fee the decision is made by voting. A referendum question has to be passed by Students' Council and the majority of students have to vote in favor of the fee in the SU's Executive elections. On every occasion the students have voted in favor of the U of A. That's why we have the U-Plus, a health and dental plan, and will be doing renovations to the Students' Union Building in the very near future. The University on the other hand does not give us the luxury of determining whether or not we value what they want to charge us for. See, the government implemented a cap to tie tuition to inflation in 2006<sup>[2]</sup>, and the University didn't like it. This is because they charged us for a lot more than just school expenses, and needed to figure out a way to make up the money. Rather than open their books and sit down with the whole campus community to figure things out, they decided the best solution was just to charge student fees on top of tuition and make them mandatory. When there should have been a conversation, there was just a decision. The really ironic part of this whole situation is that the majority of the extra fees would receive a positive voter result from students, because they pay for things that make sense. For example, would you vote yes to pay \$63.70 a semester for unlimited gym and other workout facility access? That is the cheapest gym membership I've ever heard of, so I'd say yes. How about \$26.28 for Health Services to pay for things like on-campus clinics and mental health specialists? I think that's a good deal considering how simply being on campus is guaranteed to get you sick a few times a year. In reality, pooling our money together for things like gyms and health centres keep them cheap and close to us. My point is I'm pretty sure these are things students would vote in favor of, given our track records. But there are more University fees than just gyms and clinics, and some of them are kind of crazy. Crazy because first off they don't tell you what they pay for. A good example is the Regulation and Transcript fee. It's \$74.04 a semester, and the University says it pay for "admissions, student records management, academic certification, including official transcripts, convocations, and the like from the Office of the Registrar, financial services, and Faculty offices."<sup>[3]</sup> To me it sounds like we're paying almost \$150 a year for them printing off your degree when you finally graduate. Or maybe they use the money for something more sensible. We don't know, they won't tell us. The second really outrageous fee is the Common Student Space, Sustainability and Services Fee, or CoSSS for short. The University says pays for "Bear Tracks, administrative support for information technology, risk management programs such as Protective Services and the University's emergency notification systems and a broad range of services"<sup>[4]</sup> and it costs us \$297.16 a year. Some things I'd like to point out: According to this description, we are being charged almost \$300 a year for our own safety, Beartracks, and the University's insurance. The next point is that none of those things sound remotely like they relate to student space or sustainability, and they don't really. By sustainable they don't mean more environmentally efficient, they usually mean sustaining the University. The student space part is more on the mark, only because part of the fee is for "hallways and circulation

**Darcy:** On his website, his platform page looks like it was written on Microsoft word.  
**Everyone:** (upon seeing his platform) Oh god.  
**Ryan:** Dude, paragraph breaks!  
**Darcy:** He's even got a bibliography.  
**Adrian:** It looks like when you're looking something up for a class, and you come across an obscure blog post from 1995.  
**Ryan:** It feels like they fucked up and didn't have the CSS sheet applied to it.  
**Darcy:** If we're not going to take the time to read through this, I doubt anybody will.  
**Madeline:** If only Geocities still existed, then they would have had a chance. How does the main part of his website look so good and this page looks so bad?  
**Darcy:** Maybe he thought no one would read it.  
**Ryan:** Well, Adam Woods, we called your bluff. We found your content lacking.

## VP (OpsFi)

### JOSH LE

**Adrian:** Guy Fawkes.  
**Ryan:** He's basically relying on his facial hair to get him elected.  
**Darcy:** One of his posters is a cartoon version of his face with facial hair and the other is just a picture of his actual face. I like the cartoon version better.  
**Ryan:** The cartoon one doesn't make sense unless you compare it to his real life picture, because most people don't know who he is.  
**Madeline:** It just looks like 'vote for V for Vendetta.'  
**Darcy:** The platform points say enhance SU businesses, champion SUB and PAW projects and strengthen communication channels. What does that last one mean?  
**Ryan:** Well the first one is just his job.  
**Darcy:** "I will do the bare minimum of what's required of me."  
**Madeline:** Why are SUB and PAW italicized in one poster and not in the other? Was the other poster more important?  
**Ryan:** I think it's the funnest campaign  
**Madeline:** It's funny that we're saying this is the most fun campaign and it's Operations and Finance.  
**Adrian:** Business can be fun.  
**Darcy:** It makes me wonder — if he didn't have the facial hair, what would he have to go on?  
**Ross:** He would have to work harder.  
**Ryan:** He would have to run one of those generic VP (Operations and Finance) campaigns where he just wears his dad's suit.  
**Madeline:** He's a business student though, and business students know how to buy suits that fit them.

**Darcy:** His website is very white and has some text on the top that's very hard to read.  
**Jenn:** it looks kind of like Reddit.  
**Madeline:** This is just a Tumblr.  
**Darcy:** He's got jeans videos.  
**Madeline:** Basically his platform is "one time I didn't wash my jeans."

**Darcy:** He's also going for the Guy Fawkes look.  
**Ross:** And that makes him qualified to handle SU business?  
**Darcy:** Keep in mind that Guy Fawkes was not a good guy. Then he got drawn and quartered.  
**Ryan:** Nobody wants to get drawn and quartered.

## VP (Student Life)

### KEVIN SMITH

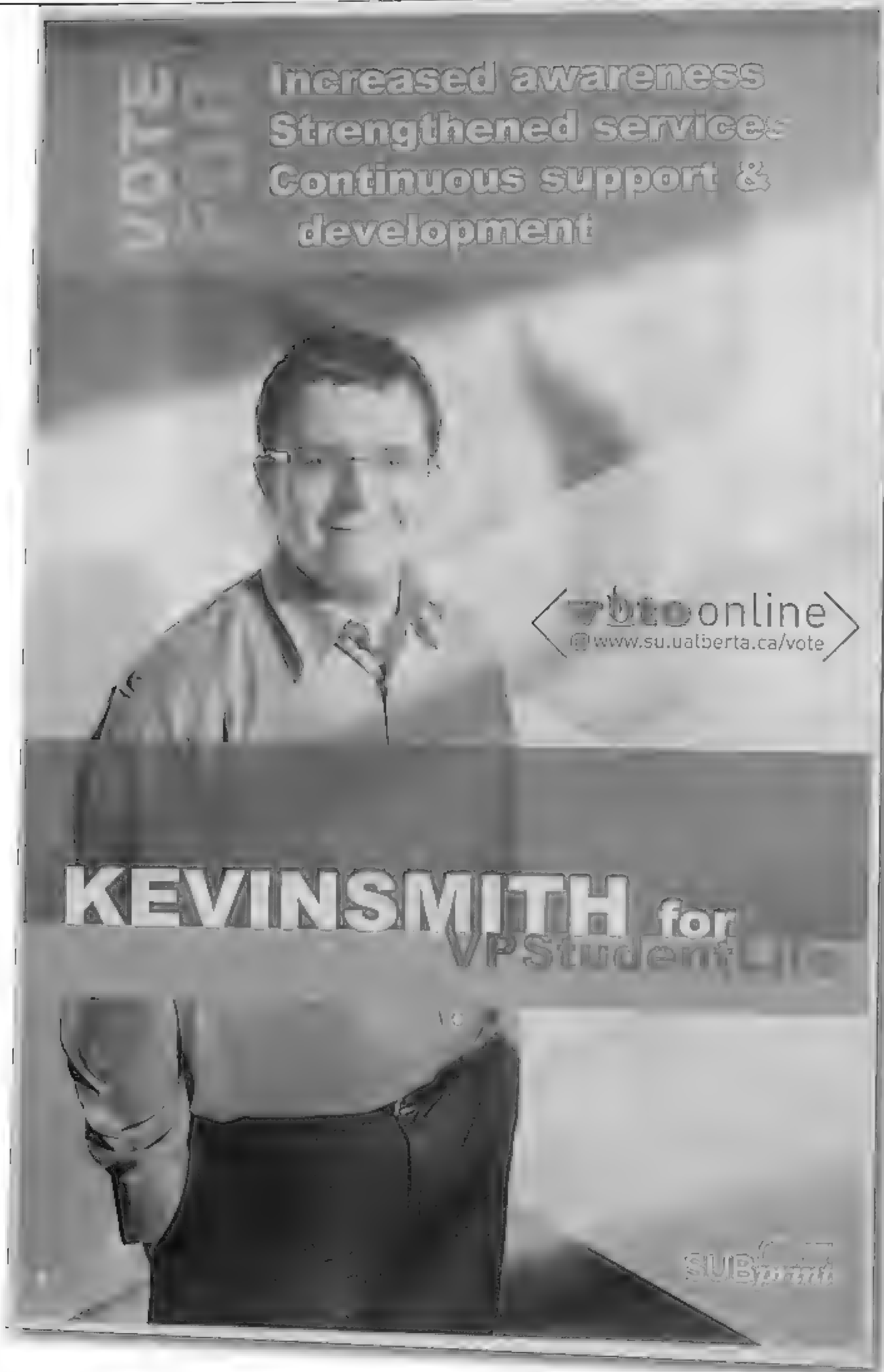
**Adrian:** What a generic name for such a generic poster.  
**Ryan:** Hey, check it out guys, it's green and gold!  
**Madeline:** Everyone had the same idea. This is kind of unfortunate.  
**Darcy:** He's got his hands in his pockets, which is something you shouldn't do.  
**Ryan:** The only way you can get away with having your hands in your pockets is if you're wearing a leather jacket and leaning up against the wall with a cigarette in your mouth. I want to see a new version of these posters where Kevin Smith is doing that.  
**Madeline:** He doesn't have a tie and his top shirt button is undone.  
**Adrian:** He's the Student Life guy — he's supposed to be fun.  
**Ross:** He's got a Brent Butt vibe going on.  
**Everyone:** Yeah!  
**Darcy:** A younger Brent Butt.  
**Darcy:** His platform points say, "Vote for increased awareness."  
**Ryan:** Of what?  
**Darcy:** And then they say, "Strengthened services. Continuous support and development."  
**Madeline:** Of what?  
**Jenn:** I've never wanted to fall asleep to seven words so much in my life.  
**Darcy:** What do we need to be aware of?  
**Adrian:** His increased services.  
**Darcy:** Strengthened services.  
**Ross:** Do they lift?  
**Darcy:** No, it doesn't look like he even lifts.  
**Adrian:** I like how he's continuing support, but I don't like that he's continuing development.  
**Ross:** I will say that the shades of green and yellow are pretty, but that's it.  
**Madeline:** It's brighter than Petros's green and gold.  
**Ryan:** This is definitely the best use of the green and gold colours. But do we need all this green and gold?  
**Adrian:** He kind of looks like a young Ed Stelmach too.  
**Darcy:** Let's take a moment and name all the things that Kevin Smith looks like.  
**Madeline:** Ironically, he doesn't look like Kevin Smith the director.

## WILLIAM LAU

**Darcy:** Each poster is the same, but they all have different platform points on it.  
**Ryan:** He fucking loves smiling.  
**Madeline:** It's kind of similar to the Josh Le







idea.  
**Ross:** It looks really uncomfortable. I've seen what he looks like in real life and what this is based off of, but in drawing form he looks constipated.  
**Madeline:** He's either smiling or grimacing in pain or he's gritting his teeth like he's about to punch someone out.  
**Ryan:** And for whatever reason, unlike Josh Le, Lau just looks like a disembodied floating head. I'm afraid that I'm going to turn around and his face is going to be floating behind me.  
**Darcy:** Each poster has different platform points, but each poster looks the same, so you wouldn't notice if you were walking by. This one just says, "Support student health by making you smile."  
**Ryan:** You can't cure cancer with smiles.  
**Darcy:** I'm failing all my classes. It's okay, just smile.  
**Jenn:** Just smile and play dodgeball.  
**Ryan:** This is starting to sound like a "you'd look a lot prettier if you smiled" situation.  
**Darcy:** This one says, "Defend student voice by advocating for you in admin decisions."  
**Madeline:** He can't actually do that. What does he mean by that?  
**Ryan:** The biggest word on this poster is 'vote'

— that's boring.  
**Madeline:** It should be his name. Wouldn't that be more productive?  
**Darcy:** His website is very much the same. He's also got this thing where he's inserted his name into words, like "pLAUsability" and "reLAUx." He's just desperately inserting his name into words that don't need it.  
**Darcy:** FaciLAUate, CommunLAUcate.  
**Ross:** Communicate doesn't even have an 'L' in it.  
**Madeline:** Inserting 'Lau' into these words makes me not know what these words were originally supposed to be.  
**Adrian:** "PLAUfessional" sounds like some kind of porn parody.  
**Jenn:** He should have gone with "Get Laued."  
**Darcy:** He has his own meme on his "vision" page.  
**Madeline:** It says, "May have small eyes but have a perfect vision for student life."  
**Everyone:** Oh no.  
**Jenn:** He should have just put his whole platform in memes.  
**Adrian:** That's where our literacy is going.  
**Jenn:** Doesn't he also say he wants to put art in stairwells?  
**Ryan:** There's art all over campus.



**Ross:** Do people linger in stairwells?  
**Darcy:** Are these the creepy stairwells in SUB? That won't make them less creepy.  
**Jenn:** If anything, it might make things creepier.  
**Ryan:** And the SU has been advocating for mental health for a while now — can we stop making this a campaign platform?  
**Darcy:** We're aware of mental health. He also wants a temporary volleyball net set up in quad.  
**Madeline:** What about the people trying to play Frisbee? What will happen to them?  
**Darcy:** He wants to continue supporting the SU farmers' market.  
**Ryan:** So, "continue supporting this thing."  
**Darcy:** And "promoting positive culture through artwork."  
**Ryan:** Why is it positive culture? Why can't it be negative culture?  
**Madeline:** What is positive culture?

**Ross:** It's interesting that this year's crop of Student Life candidates are opting for the suit and tie. That doesn't make me think of fun and dodgeball.

**BoG Rep**  
**BRENT KELLY**

**Darcy:** Was this not the photo he used last year?  
**Ross:** It's not a good picture. It needs to be brightened a bit. It's very dark and dirty.  
**Adrian:** It's Brent Kelly's sunset.  
**Madeline:** I wonder what he's looking at. What does that expression say? Is it his grandma in the distance?  
**Ross:** He's probably looking in a mirror.  
**Adrian:** It's a smile that says, "I'm uncontented."  
**Darcy:** It says he wants to "amplify advocacy."  
**Adrian:** Turn up the advocacy!

**Madeline:** At least it doesn't say "increasing awareness." When he says "increasing involvement," he means increasing mandatory tabling for SU executives.  
**Adrian:** Why doesn't he just say that then?  
**Ross:** I like that he insists on having the "http://" for his website on his posters.  
**Adrian:** In case your grandma has to go to his website.

**Darcy:** He has a very long platform on his website with small words.  
**Ross:** That's tough to read.  
**Madeline:** I feel like this poster was put together very quickly with very little thought involved.

**Awards**  
**BEST POSTER:**  
**PETROS KUSMU**

**Madeline:** He won last year too. Damn you, Petros. You're just too stylish.  
**Darcy:** It's colourful, it has a lot going on and when I walk around campus, this is the one that I notice the most.  
**Darcy:** I don't know if I trust in him, but I trust in him to have good taste when it comes to posters.  
**Ross:** And that's really all that matters.

**Ryan:** The green makes him look a little bit like a zombie.  
**Darcy:** He's a happy zombie with nice teeth.  
**Ross:** If I were going to get my brains eaten, I'd want it to be by him.  
**Darcy:** He'd be very polite about it.

**WORST POSTER:**  
**BRENT KELLY**

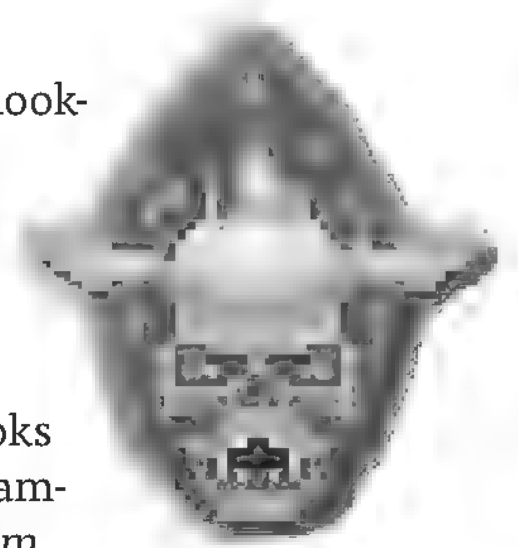
**Ryan:** he used the same photo from last year, and somehow it looks worse.  
**Ross:** That's a talent.  
**Jenn:** It looks like he was deliberately going for last place, and man, did he get it.  
**Madeline:** All the relevant information is there, but it doesn't look good.  
**Darcy:** The Bored of Governors?

**GREEPIEST SMILE:**  
**ADAM WOODS**

**Madeline:** This award is going to Adam Woods, but the runner-up is Kevin Smith.  
**Adrian:** It was a tight race.  
**Jenn:** Could you imagine if someone looked at you like that in real life?  
**Darcy:** You just look up from your drink at the bar, and there he is with that smile.  
**Adrian:** You're on an empty bus late at night, and he just comes down and sits right beside you with that smile.

**BEST SILHOUETTE:**  
**JOSH LE**

**Ryan:** Le wins for looking like a mask.  
**Darcy:** William Lau tried, but it isn't working for him.  
**Ryan:** Lau just looks like one of those flaming skulls from Doom.



**BEST SLOGAN:**  
**HORSE WITH A GUN**  
**"Hot to Trot"**

**Jenn:** That's pretty much as good as it gets.  
**Ryan:** Who wouldn't want to trot with Horse With a Gun?

**BEST LIGHTING:**  
**KEVIN SMITH**

**Adrian:** Just look at that lighting.  
**Darcy:** It reminds you of relaxing in your living room on a sunny afternoon.  
**Ross:** And then Kevin Smith walks in.  
**Adrian:** He walks in and says, "Do you have trouble with erectile dysfunction?"  
**Madeline:** He's a glowing cherubic angel, here to increase your awareness about the heavens.

**MOST LIKELY TO LIFT:**  
**SAADIO SUMAR**

**Darcy:** Douche Brewski stopped by and gave this award to Sumar. Look at those traps.  
**Ross:** He definitely lifts.  
**Ryan:** His 'ceps are just bursting out of that jacket.  
**Adrian:** This is starting to feel weird.



# Arts & Culture

## Arts & Culture Editor

Alana Willerton

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**Email**

arts@gateway.ualberta.ca

**Volunteer**

A&amp;C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB.

## social intercourse

COMPILED BY **Paige Gorsak**

### Age of Arousal

Thursday, March 7 - Saturday, March 16 at 7 p.m., matinées March 9, 10 and 17 at 1:30 p.m.  
C103 (8529 103 St.)  
\$21.75 at tixonthesquare.ca

When people talk about a time of sexual revolution, they're usually referring to the 1960s. But in Linda Griffith's play *Age of Arousal*, it's happening with the bursting petticoats of sexually frustrated Londoners in the 1880s. The story investigates the turn of the century through the life of ex-suffragette Mary, who is running a school for secretaries. Chaos ensues for Mary and her friend Rhoda when three eccentric sisters enter the school. Produced by Maggie Tree Productions, a local theatre company whose work involves supporting women in leadership roles in the arts, *The Age of Arousal* is a fitting story about challenging norms and gender bending in a time when it was frowned upon in society.

### Cloudburst

Friday, March 8 at 9:30 p.m., Sunday, March 10 at 7 p.m., Monday, March 11 at 9 p.m. and Wednesday, March 13 at 9:30 p.m.  
Metro Cinema (8712 109 St.)  
\$8 for students at the door

Just in time to get in the spirit of the U of A's Pride Week, Metro Cinema is screening *Cloudburst*, the love story of Stella and Dot, two American lesbians who embark on a road trip to Canada to get married after 31 years of being together. The pair, played by Academy Award winners Olympia Dukakis and Brenda Fricker, pick up a lonely hitchhiker along the way, and together the trio finds meaning in life, death and love. Critics praised the atypical road trip film as heartwarming and hilarious, and it's earned more than 25 Best Picture awards from various international film festivals.

### Brasstronaut

With The Collective West and Locomotive Ghost  
Saturday, March 9 at 8 p.m.  
The Artery (9535 101 Ave.)  
\$12 at yeglive.ca

Vancouver-based band Brasstronaut launches their way into Edmonton this weekend, playing one of their last Canadian stops before they head off to Europe. Made up of musicians trained in classical and jazz styles, the band fuses disparate instruments like the clarinet, synthesizers and slide guitar with their signature trumpet sound to create eerie and ethereal alt-pop songs. With local folk-pop band Collective West and the country rock group Locomotive West kicking the show off, it's sure to showcase the best of western Canadian indie tunes.

### Imagine Dragons

With Atlas Genius and Nico Vega  
Monday, March 11 at 6 p.m.  
Starlite Room (10030 102 St.)  
Sold out

From the tinkling mandolin and catchy hand-claps of their misfit anthem "It's Time" to the bassy synthesizer hit "Radioactive" where they welcome the world to "the new age," audiences can only wonder if Las Vegas quartet Imagine Dragons knew the new age involved the band blowing up and selling out shows across North America. Their current tour is in support of their latest full-length album *Night Vision*, and preludes their performance at summer festivals such as Sasquatch in Washington and Bergenfest in Norway.



ALANA WILLERTON

## Discovering the wonders of wine

### FOOD PROFILE

### Wine tips with local expert Gurvinder Bhatia

**Kate Black**

ARTS &amp; CULTURE STAFF • @BLAHBLAHBLACK

Walking into local wine store Vinomania on Jasper Ave., you're greeted by a room stocked floor-to-ceiling and wall-to-wall with bottles of wine. The selection boasts bottles of all shapes and sizes, from countries you've never heard of and with names you'd struggle to pronounce. It's enough to make any vino blush and send wine newbies running for higher ground.

But local wine expert and Vinomania store owner Gurvinder Bhatia explains there's nothing to be scared of when it comes to entering the world of wine — you just have to be open to accepting a bit of guidance.

"When people walk in and they see so many different names from so many different grape varieties, it can be daunting at first. But it's the same as buying a car or buying a stereo system — you have to tap into people first," Bhatia says.

Still, Bhatia admits there's an intimidation factor that keeps people from exploring wine culture, and "tapping into people" can be difficult when a paradigm of snobbery is embedded in the industry. Things like not tasting what a critic tastes or not wanting to spend your savings on a bottle are valid boundaries to getting into wine, but they're easy to get around.

"It's important to understand that there's no rights and wrongs in terms of a wine reviewer saying this tastes like blackberries and plums and cherries, for example. If you don't get that, it doesn't mean that something's wrong with you, because everyone has different levels of perception in terms of flavours and aromas," Bhatia explains.

Despite these barriers, Bhatia has found that the younger generation is often still open to trying different kinds of wine, as they lack a stiff

loyalty to certain brands. After graduating with his BSc from the U of A in 1987 and later obtaining his law degree from St. Louis, he decided to translate his love for wine into a business that offers great selection for customers of all ages — whether they're buying their first or thousandth bottle of wine.

Bhatia has butted heads with restaurant owners and critics in the city who've adopted the attitude of not providing good-quality products for people who "don't know the difference" between a mediocre wine and a premium wine, explaining that people will never know quality unless they try it.

"I think the people that create those types of barriers for people are really doing a disservice to the whole industry, because what you really want to do is make people feel included and give people the opportunity to be involved with it," he says.

Quality, as Bhatia sees it, is a reflection of where the grapes that made the wine came from. Wine producers often take the easier route by trending towards producing wines that fit a certain "profile" or taste

instead of reflecting its origin, leading to a trend of homogenous, generic-tasting products — no matter where in the world they're from.

"People tend to forget that wine is an agricultural product," Bhatia says. "Wine should have a sense of place; it should have a sense of where it's from. A Cabernet grown in Napa should be different from a Cabernet grown in Tuscany or France, because so much has to do with the soil conditions and the microclimates where the grapes are grown."

Buying a good-quality wine doesn't necessarily mean springing for a \$30 or \$40 bottle. Unfortunately, with the Edmonton-area running one of the highest warehousing costs in North America for importers, it's difficult to find a truly "good" bottle for less than \$10

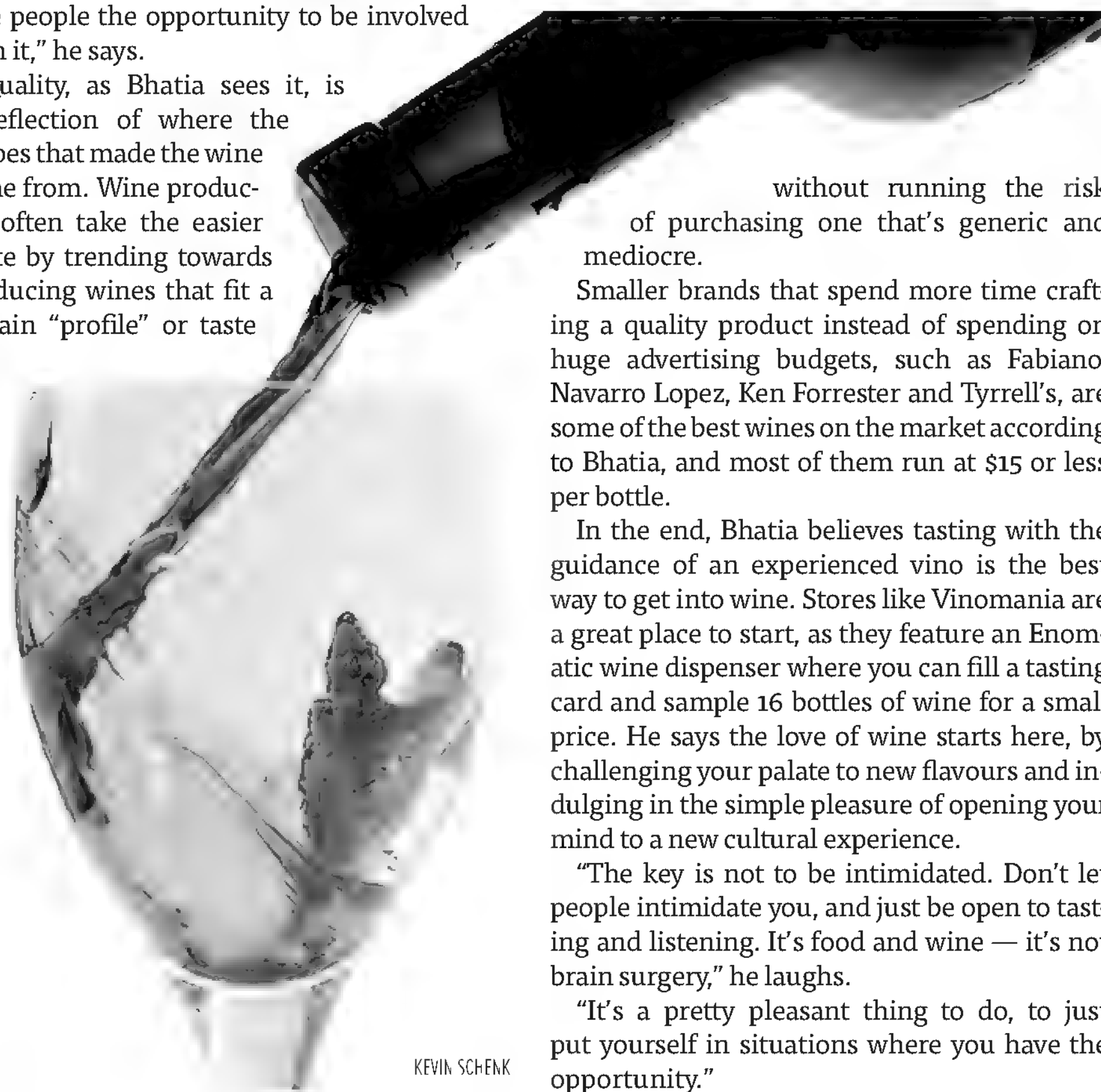
without running the risk of purchasing one that's generic and mediocre.

Smaller brands that spend more time crafting a quality product instead of spending on huge advertising budgets, such as Fabiano, Navarro Lopez, Ken Forrester and Tyrrell's, are some of the best wines on the market according to Bhatia, and most of them run at \$15 or less per bottle.

In the end, Bhatia believes tasting with the guidance of an experienced vino is the best way to get into wine. Stores like Vinomania are a great place to start, as they feature an Enomatic wine dispenser where you can fill a tasting card and sample 16 bottles of wine for a small price. He says the love of wine starts here, by challenging your palate to new flavours and indulging in the simple pleasure of opening your mind to a new cultural experience.

"The key is not to be intimidated. Don't let people intimidate you, and just be open to tasting and listening. It's food and wine — it's not brain surgery," he laughs.

"It's a pretty pleasant thing to do, to just put yourself in situations where you have the opportunity."



KEVIN SCHENK





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# SU stages *Young Frankenstein* for first-ever campus musical

## THEATRE PREVIEW

## Young Frankenstein

WRITTEN BY &gt; Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan

DIRECTED BY &gt; Luay Eljamal

STARRING &gt; Connor Meek, Jessica Watson, Eric Smith, Rebecca Collins, Daisy Daver and Brett Calvert

WHEN &gt; Wednesday, March 6 - Saturday, March 9 at 7 p.m., dinner served on Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m.

WHERE &gt; Dinwoodie Lounge (SUB)

HOW MUCH &gt; Students \$16.75 for just the show, \$37 for dinner and show at tixonthesquare.ca



CHENFEI ZHENG

## Alana Willerton

ARTS &amp; CULTURE EDITOR • @ALANAWILLERTON

## FRANKENSTEIN • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The idea of a campus musical was first proposed by 2011-12 VP (Student Life) Colten Yamagishi, who has taken over as producer of *Young Frankenstein* for current VP (Student Life) Saadiq Sumar while he campaigns for the presidency in this year's SU elections. Yamagishi acknowledged the work Sumar has put in to making this one-time campaign promise a reality, and said he's pleased his original idea has finally come into fruition.

"I think a lot of goals that SU candidates run on are multi-year goals, and two years is pretty fast to actually see something be implemented ... it means a lot to me to be able to see something that I ran on and believed in be fulfilled while I'm still here," Yamagishi says. "I think the principles of what I ran on when I wanted that to happen are being fulfilled by this musical."

The ultimate selling point for the musical was the fact that anyone on campus could participate, no matter what faculty they hail from. Pointing to U of A productions put on by the likes of Abbedam, Studio Theatre and the annual Lister production as examples of shows restricted to those

in certain faculties or residencies, Eljamal says the diversity of students involved in the production is an element of pride. And while there are no Fine Arts students involved in the production, Eljamal estimates that about half the students are in the Faculty of Arts, while the other half are a mix of students from several faculties, ranging from medicine to engineering.

"This was perfect for anyone who doesn't necessarily want to study arts but still has that passion on the side (to) get involved," Eljamal explains. "I've worked with drama students who think with drama minds. They're trained to look at the shapes and the lines and think, 'What's my objective?' But when it comes to these students from faculties like Science, they think outside the box. We're so used to thinking one way, so that opens my mind — and I think all our minds — to newer ideas and possibilities when it comes to putting the show on."

Still, not everyone is completely on board with the idea of yet another theatre production on campus. For some, the idea of spending money on something like a musical seems frivolous when there are already so many productions put on each year. But Yamagishi argues that the campus musical is no different

from other events that the SU hosts throughout the year, and that *Young Frankenstein* will ultimately benefit the campus as a whole.

"I think the SU has a responsibility to showcase all sorts of student engagement," Yamagishi says. "They could say, 'Why do we have campus rec dodgeball, why do we have Break the Record, why do we do AntiFreeze.' I think it's a pretty mute argument when you think about engaging the whole campus community."

Eljamal agrees, hoping skeptics will be silenced once they see the final product. He argues this year is just a starting point for an inclusive event like this, and a theatre production open to anyone on campus is exactly what the U of A needs and will grow to want.

"My argument would be that there obviously is an interest, because first of all, 50 people did audition and that's with not that much word spread ... So there is an interest, we just have to show that it can happen," Eljamal says.

"I think what a lot of people are hearing is that they've tried to do it before and it's failed. We just need that one time that we can push through that threshold and show them that this can be a possibility so we can have extra support in future years."

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## datapp

WRITTEN BY **Ryan Stephens**

### Mailbox

**COST** > Free

**PLATFORM** > iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch

Strictly speaking, I don't have Mailbox yet. Well, I do, but after downloading it I was placed in a sort of purgatorial state, left to watch a massive queue dwindle until they allow me to enter the promised land.

Mailbox is an email app with an unorthodox distribution scheme. After downloading it, users open the app to find that they can't access the mailbox and have instead been given a number. Currently, I'm 668,873rd in line, and my number declines by about 25,000 per day.

The reason for the queue is the team behind Mailbox is progressively beefing up their servers to ensure the highly hyped app is never overloaded. It speaks to the same simplicity that they hope to achieve with email.

The goal of Mailbox is to help users attain the elusive "inbox zero," as it's easy to get overwhelmed as the volumes pile in daily. The app's users read an email and are forced to then make a decision: sort it, delete it or snooze it so it pops up later. Using basic swipe gestures, Mailbox hopes to revolutionize our workflows — a lofty goal, but so far the reception is positive.

It'll be a few weeks before I can experience the app in all its glory, but so far, Mailbox's hype and penchant for suspense has won me over. For obvious reasons, if you're at all curious, it's best you stop what you're doing and hop into the queue right now.

*Dat app is a weekly feature that highlights the best apps out there.*



# Local husband and wife duo rock out in band I Am Machi

## MUSIC PREVIEW

### I Am Machi

WITH > Canyon Rose Outfit and Death By Robot

WHEN > Friday, Mar. 8 at 8 p.m.

WHERE > The Artery (9535 Jasper Ave.)

HOW MUCH > \$10 at yeglive.ca or at the door

**Chris Gee**

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @CHRISGGGGG

For some, marriage and settling down signals the end of their youth — meaning there's no more play and only time for grown-up things. But for new Edmonton husband and wife duo I Am Machi, their adventure is just beginning. While married life has its responsibilities, Nathan and Jileane Stokland have found a way to embrace it while making sure their day always has a healthy dose of music.

"After I get home from work, we kind of weave music into stuff we have to do," Nathan says. "Like, clean the house and then practice or —"

"We make sure to pretty much practice at least a half hour a day," Jileane adds. "Like, at the minimum. Our Saturdays are like, 'Hey! We get to sleep in and then practice and then have breakfast and maybe practice again!' It's the thing we look forward to — our after-school activities."

After being invited into their home, the two show me around the house, which Jileane apologetically explains "smells like cat pee everywhere." Luckily, their practice space seems to be devoid of any feline odours. The small room in the basement is presumably where Nathan pumps out his infectious guitar riffs, while Jileane formulates intricate, pounding beats on her drums. With Nathan also providing the band's warm and punchy vocals, I Am Machi plays multi-dimensional, soft-to-heavy energetic pop-rock songs, and it's fascinating how all this melodic noise can come from a band of



CHRIS GEE

just two people.

But you have to wonder if it's I Am Machi's style of crunchy but emotional cacophony that makes the band work so well for the couple. Being married and living together means there will inevitably be some disagreements between the two, but playing loud music together has proven to be effective therapy.

"Part of what makes music together so cathartic is like, 'Hey, we got in a fight yesterday — let's go beat the crap into our instruments for a half hour and then talk about it after we get some of our energy out,'" Jileane explains.

"If you have a fight with your band, you can go home and deal with it later. But we practice downstairs and you leave and you're still upstairs," Nathan continues. "So I don't know, the good (and bad) times are all together."

The duo have a special musical dynamic that's unusual for couples, and this interesting connection also extends to Nathan and Jileane's activities outside music. Typically both homebodies, the couple can often be found within the depths of their

home doing other less conventional married couple activities.

"We're both kind of old souls trapped in young bodies. We don't really like to go out a whole lot. And we get 'people'd' out really easily. So the ideal day is spent playing video games with no pants on. We have what we call 'spa days' which are sans pants avec whiskey," Nathan says.

"We've come to terms that we are both old men. I am not necessarily a man, but I'm an old man at heart. I like slippers and sweaters and blankets and all that — but also a good pipe and big mug of coffee," Jileane laughs.

Whether it's through their band or just normal, everyday married life, the distinct chemistry between Nathan and Jileane is unmistakable, and truly defines what it means to be partners.

"We spend a lot of time together and we're pursuing music together, and it's important in both of our lives. It's just something we love to do together," Nathan concludes.

"I don't know if it flourishes our relationship or makes it grow, but yeah."

## finer things

COMPILED BY Taylor Evans

## Jennifer Lawrence

Finally, a celebrity who tells it like it is — no matter the level of embarrassment or harmful consequences it may have on her career. Known for her talent, fantastic interviews and array of emotions conveyed strictly through animated facial expressions, Jennifer Lawrence deserves recognition as one of pop culture's Finer Things.

Perfectly awkward, Lawrence charmed the socks off the press and fans at the Oscars this past month with her honest, hilarious and on-the-fly interviews before and after the awards.

Lawrence seemed to have just one thing on her mind during her red carpet interviews: food. It's nice knowing the woman behind Katniss Everdeen also enjoys eating until she hates herself. Starving after a hectic day of getting dolled up, she had zero time to chow down and was looking forward to the dinner served after the awards ceremony, which she exasperatedly pronounced as "soooo long."

Later, after a graceful fall up the stairs, a standing ovation and forgetting to thank her director and Mr. Weinstein during her acceptance speech, Lawrence also claimed to have thrown back a shot before hitting up the press booth to deliver more GIF-able moments for the internet.

Her clumsy nature and willingness to say literally whatever comes to mind is what makes this girl a winner not only at the 2013 Oscars, but in every human being's heart.

*The Finer Things is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway pop culture pundits point to a particularly relevant or pretentious example of art celebrating it for all of its subjective merit.*

## fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Alana Willerton



**Kaz Wong**  
ARTS I

GATEWAY: > Describe what you're wearing.

KAZ: > It's mostly thrifted. My cardigan was three bucks from Value Village, and this Volcom sweater is from Winners. I don't really wear Volcom, but it's a nice colour. (The dress) is from the H&M kids section and my leggings are from the internet. Thrifted shoes again — they're kind of nasty looking, but that's how I like them.

GATEWAY: > What's your favourite thing you have on?

KAZ: > Not counting accessories, I guess my yellow sweater. It's cushy, it's really big and it's yellow. I find yellow is usually an obnoxious colour, so I go for that.



Check out [thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters](http://thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters) for more photos.



brewsbrothers

WRITTEN BY Adrien Lahola-Chomiak and Ben Bourrie

Lone Wolf IPA

**Brewery:** Fernie Brewing Company  
**Available at:** Sherbrooke Liquor Store (11819 St. Albert Trail)

Some Canadian breweries have risen to national fame, while others are still struggling to make their mark in an increasingly competitive market. It's important to support these smaller breweries, some of which have really interesting offerings. This week, I checked out Fernie Brewing Company's Lone Wolf IPA to see if it can stand up to the big boys.

The beer pours a golden copper colour with a finger of white head, which laces the glass well. On the nose, there's a sweet malty aroma with hints of tropical fruit and citrus rind in the background. The smell is a bit underwhelming for an IPA, since it doesn't have the big hop kick you would usually expect from this kind of beer.

In terms of flavour, Lone Wolf has more hop character with some piney resin and grapefruit tastes, and it's backed up by some toffee sweet malt. It's not particularly bitter — noticeably less than normal for the style.

As much as I like to find beers I can recommend to loyal beer geeks, sometimes I have to issue a warning instead. Lone Wolf IPA is a middle of the line beer at best, and fails to capture significant hop character in either the aroma or flavour. It gets a disappointing 5/10.



Ola Dubh

**Brewery:** Harviestoun Brewery  
**Available at:** Sherbrooke Liquor store (11819 St. Albert Trail) and Keg n Cork (3845 99 St.)

Over the last few years, one of the fastest growing styles in craft beer has been barrel-aged stouts. The Scottish brewery Harviestoun has thrown their hat into the mix in a distinctly Scottish way, using Highland Park single malt scotch barrels for their Ola Dubh line of beers. This week, I tried out the version of Ola Dubh aged in 12-year old scotch barrels.

The beer pours a viscous, oily black colour with a one-finger khaki head, and makes for a great-looking stout. The nose is full of sweet oak and vanilla scents from the barrel alongside roasted chocolate malt and toffee. There's also a light coffee and smoke quality in the background.

The taste is oaky, with vanilla, toffee and chocolate flavours, plus a sweet alcohol playing with that same faint smoke from the nose. The mouth feel is thick and oily, but manages not to feel too heavy, and the carbonation is suitably low for this kind of beer.

Overall, this is a great entry level barrel-aged stout for anyone interested in the style or for any stout fans looking to try something different. It doesn't go over the top with the barrel character or alcohol level, earning it an 8/10.



campusbites

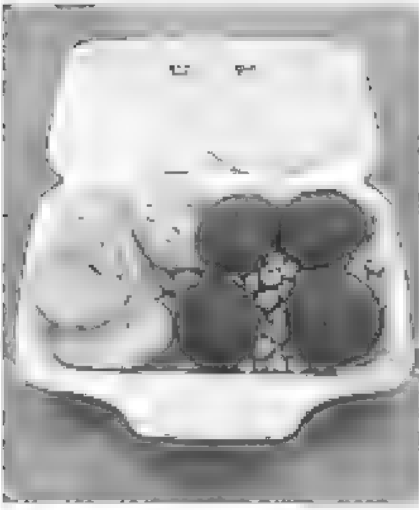
COMPILED BY Ryan Stephens, Jennifer Robinson and Alana Willerton



Feta & Olives

Every week, three writers with iron stomachs sample food on campus. This week, they tackled Feta & Olives in HUB.

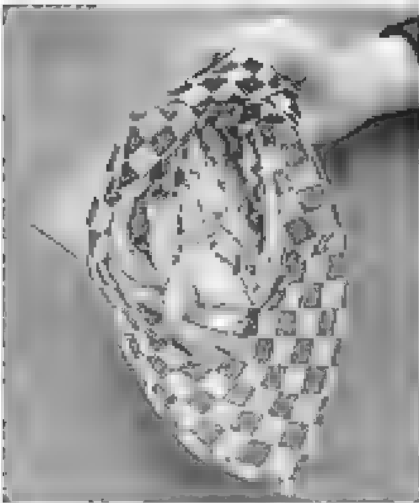
Falafel Dinner - \$8.70 - Ryan Stephens



Some things just shouldn't be eaten on-the-go, and one of those things is a falafel dinner. I was served a few bites of falafel on a bed of chickpea salad and potatoes, with some pita bread and hummus on the side. The falafel was quickly fried and had a tough

and chewy outer shell that crumbled open to a lifeless mixture inside, while the well-cooked plain potatoes were dashed with herbs that only barely boosted the taste. The serving was large and looked appetizing, but I left with a full stomach and a mediocre impression.

Caesar Wrap with Chicken - \$6.60 - Jennifer Robinson



As a genuine lover of Greek food, I was very excited to participate in this week's Campus Bites. However, I'm sad to say I was a little disappointed with my meal. To me, Greek food is something with many flavours and spices — something this meal was severely

lacking. Essentially, it was a very plain caesar salad with some equally bland chicken thrown inside a pita. Although it wasn't offensively bad, it just didn't have that wow factor I was looking for — I guess it's only to be expected from campus food.

Chicken Tzatziki pita - \$6.29 - Alana Willerton



The chicken tzatziki pita at Feta & Olives is pretty much exactly what you'd expect: plenty of chicken and your choice of vegetables all wrapped in a white pita. This would all be fairly boring if it wasn't for the tzatziki

sauce, which provides some much-needed kick to this otherwise standard food choice. The pita wasn't anything spectacular, but it was a serviceable meal that got the job done and filled my stomach.

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# Double dose of student art in latest FAB Gallery exhibits

## ART PREVIEW

### Field Notes and The Space Between Us

CREATED BY > Lisa Matthias and  
Alysha Creighton  
WHEN > Runs until Saturday, March 23  
WHERE > FAB Gallery  
COST > Free

**Christine Grant**  
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

This month, FAB Gallery is hosting two dynamic art exhibits that, while very different from one other, express the artists' care and concern for their subject matter in a powerful way.

**“(The pieces are) very energetic, and when you look close up at the line work, there’s a lot of energy, tension and anxiety that comes through.”**

LISA MATTHIAS  
ARTIST, FIELD NOTES

Lisa Matthias and Alysha Creighton are each presenting their final visual presentations for their Masters in Fine Arts degrees, and their exhibits are both interesting explorations of their individual backgrounds and values. While Matthias's work is drawn from her background as a



LOCAL ART Alysha Creighton and Lisa Matthias present their final visual presentations of the year. KATHLEEN ZENITH

biologist, Creighton's exhibit is influenced by her experience in dance and her interest in how people engage the space between, whether it be by words or movement.

Matthias's exhibit, titled Field Notes, focuses on interconnectedness between all forms of life on Earth, drawing from images of leaves and her skin under a microscope, examining the lines and cells and how they weave together. Using wood blocks to create prints, her pieces stand around four feet tall and feature black and white shapes overlapping one another in a clear reference to interconnectedness.

Describing herself as a calm and relaxed person, Matthias maintains

that the experience of carving is extremely vigorous, and that this energy comes partially because of her concern for preserving the natural world.

“(The pieces are) very energetic, and when you look close up at the line work, there’s a lot of energy, tension and anxiety that comes through,” she explains. “That’s kind of part of this conservation undercurrent.”

In contrast, the energy that comes out of Creighton's exhibit is much less anxious. Her work, The Space Between Us, focuses on how people interact with space around them. Using video as her medium of choice, her exhibit is made up of five pieces — one which is only visible after dark

— that explore different ways of using space.

“I was interested in the way that words pass between people and engage our bodies,” Creighton explains.

This theme is perhaps most evident in a piece that features a series of three monitors, each showing the same video but running at different times. The video features two women seen from above who enter the frame, pick up a black cloth and fold it into a square. The angle of the video, which obscures much of the women's identities, plays into the overall abstractness of the exhibit by putting an emphasis on their interactions within the space rather than

their individual traits.

“There’s kind of a strangeness (to this piece): you can’t really see them, you can’t really see their faces and you can’t recognize them. I kind of think that’s a theme in all the work, that the faces are withheld. We don’t really see usual markers of identity or ways we see people communicate usually,” Creighton says.

A final expression of themselves as artists before they graduate, both Field Notes and The Space Between Us displays the individual experiences of these two student artists. And while both exhibits have very different themes, both are fascinating examples of the work being done by students right here on campus.



"Lisa, those lips went down, Lisa. Way down. I like it so much better. I have to be honest with you. I respect that choice."

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# Sports

**Sports Editor**

Andrew Jeffrey

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**Volunteer**

Sports meetings Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

## CIS Track and Field Schedule



All times in Mountain Standard Time  
All events will take place in the  
U of A's Butterdome.

### Thursday, March 7

2:30 - Weight Throw (W) Final  
3:00 - 60m Hurdles (W) Pentathlon  
3:15 - 60m Hurdles (M) Pentathlon  
3:45 - High Jump (W) Pentathlon  
4:00 - Long Jump (M) Pentathlon  
5:15 - Shot Put (M) Pentathlon  
6:00 - 60m (W) Heats  
6:10 - 60m (M) Heats  
6:15 - Shot Put (W) Pentathlon  
6:30 - High Jump (M) Pentathlon  
7:00 - 60m (W) Final  
7:10 - 60m (M) Final  
7:30 - Long Jump (W) Pentathlon  
7:30 - 600m (W) Heats  
7:45 - 600m (M) Heats  
8:00 - 4x200m Relay (W) Heats  
8:20 - 4x200m Relay (M) Heats  
8:45 - 1000m (M) Pentathlon  
9:00 - 800m (W) Pentathlon

### Friday, March 8

4:30 Weight Throw (M) Final  
4:30 60m Hurdles (W) Heats  
4:45 60m Hurdles (M) Heats  
5:00 Long Jump (M) Final  
5:00 Pole Vault (W) Final  
5:00 1000m (W) Final  
5:10 1000m (M) Final  
5:30 60m Hurdles (M) Final  
5:40 60m Hurdles (W) Final  
5:50 300m (W) Heats  
6:05 300m (M) Heats  
6:30 3000m (W) Final  
6:50 3000m (M) Final  
7:00 High Jump (M) Final  
7:00 Long Jump (W) Final  
7:00 Shot Put (W) Final  
7:40 300m (W) Final  
7:50 300m (M) Final  
8:00 4x800m Relay (W) Final  
8:15 4x800m Relay (M) Final

### Saturday, March 9

12:30 Triple Jump (W) Final  
12:30 Pole Vault (M) Final  
1:15 600m (W) Final  
1:30 600m (M) Final  
2:15 4x200m Relay (W) Final  
2:25 4x200m Relay (M) Final  
2:30 High Jump (W) Final  
2:45 Triple Jump (M) Final  
2:45 Shot Put (M) Final  
2:45 1500m (W) Final  
3:00 1500m (M) Final  
4:00 4x400m Relay (W) Final  
4:15 4x400m Relay (M) Final

## 2013 U of A Canada West medals

Gold - Benjamin Williams (Men's 60m sprint)  
Gold - Katrina Martin (Women's 60m sprint)  
Gold - Kathryn McCaffrey (Women's 60m hurdles)  
Gold - Courtney Wilkes (Women's Triple Jump)  
Gold - Pandas team in 4x200 m sprint (Leah Walkeden, Katrina Martin, Debby Trang, Alexa Hyrcun)  
Silver - Ted Kostelnik (Men's long jump)  
Silver - Leah Walkeden (Women's 60m sprint)  
Silver - Ciera Heksha-Wolfe (Women's weight throw)

# U of A hosts track nationals with new focus

## TRACK PREVIEW

### CIS National Championships

Thursday, March 7 to Saturday, March 9  
U of A Pavilion

**Andrew Jeffrey**

SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW\_JEFFREY

When the U of A track and field team takes to the field on Thursday afternoon as hosts of this year's national championships, they'll enter the tournament a very different group from previous seasons.

The summer of 2012 brought much change for the U of A's track team. Wes Moerman was brought in as associate director of athletic programming, taking over the U of A's track team. Since then, the team has seen major changes made to their roster, leaving them with a smaller team than in previous seasons.

"There were people who didn't want to be there that were just doing it to say they were on the track team for something to put on their résumé," fifth-year Pandas athlete and team captain Kathryn McCaffrey said. "They were kind of weaned out, and at first it was off-putting, but it ended up working. I loved it in comparison because finally we got some respect around campus, that we aren't just a team that anyone can join."

The change has led to a higher calibre of performance expected from the U of A's athletes, but hasn't improved the team's overall performance at meets this season: the Pandas' fourth-place finish and the Bears' seventh-place finish at the CanWest championships were each one spot lower than the year before, and their expectations for nationals aren't high. But the team's focus has changed from one that centres on the team's point totals as a whole at track meets to letting the players take a more indi-



KEVIN SCHENK

vidual focus on their own events.

"Last year, we were about points. I competed in five different events in two days, and you just put yourself out there for the team because it was for the points," second-year Panda Leah Walkeden said. "This year it was more about doing as best as you can in your events ... We'll still kill it in our own events, but there will be so many of us that are good that the points will come and we'll get back up there in the country."

"This year is definitely more of a rebuilding phase," fourth-year Pandas athlete Courtney Wilkes said. "That's the impression I've gotten ... The strategy this year is focusing more on rebuilding the program rather than throwing people into a whole bunch of events. Later on we'll have a solid foundation to branch out a little bit."

This season, the top favourites to win come mostly from Ontario

schools such as the University of Guelph, Windsor and Western University, with the Western men and Windsor women looking to repeat as national champions. Hosting these teams at their own U of A facilities will show the Bears and Pandas what they need to do to compete on their opponents' level and return to the hunt for a CIS championship.

"The advantage for us as a team and as a program is just to see where the rest of the schools are at in this country on a national level, and we see that right in our backyard and we see what we need to be striving and working toward," Moerman said.

"At the end of the day, the value is really the work you put in before (nationals), and I think that the real benefit is the ability to use the facility the way we've been able to use it this year to help progress the athletes."

The U of A Pavilion stands as one of the best facilities many of the Bears and Pandas athletes have competed in, despite travelling to different parts of Canada and even south of the border to Seattle this season. The Butterdome will invite schools from across CIS to compete in one of the best facilities in the country.

"I think that we'll do well because of the adrenaline and the comfort of being at home, but all of us knows everything about our track," McCaffrey said.

"(Pandas weight thrower Ciera Heksha-Wolfe) knows exactly what the throw circle is going to like, these guys know exactly what the blocks and finish line are going to look like, I know exactly what the hurdles look like and where the spacings are.

"We know the most about this track and we know the ins and outs. I think we're going to look pretty good."

# Local recruits drive success of current U of A track team

## TRACK ROUNDUP

**Andrew Jeffrey**

SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW\_JEFFREY

As the U of A prepares for nationals on their home campus this weekend, the school's top performers represent the improved stature of local track and field over the last few years.

One of the events most likely to produce medal contenders for the U of A this season is the 60-metre sprint. On the women's side, sophomore sprinter Leah Walkeden and first-year Katrina Martin both medaled at the Canada West championships, as did second-year Golden Bears athlete Benjamin Williams. What connects all these athletes are their roots in Edmonton high schools.

The three athletes represent some of the U of A's best chances to win more medals at CIS championships this weekend.

Even seeing the athletes coming through high school track and field now and hearing about their results impresses the athletes currently competing at the CIS level for the U of A.

"When I went through high school track, there was definitely not a lot of performances where you'd say, 'Oh my God, look at what this person did in high school.' Now you look at world rank times being made in high school in Edmonton, in Alberta. We have the athletes who can stick it then and who can go and do it at world level," Walkeden said.

This situation for the U of A, especially on the women's side, is unique, with two sprinters still fairly new to CIS competing for medals after Martin won gold and Walkeden won silver at the CanWest championships. While the two remain friends off the track, when it comes time to compete at events like CanWest and CIS, they

maintain that these meets are all business.

"We kind of avoid each other a bit when we're on the track. It's not necessary to talk to her and likewise. But it's no hard feelings or anything," Martin said. "We both know that we've got our zones and we stay out of each other's way."

Looking towards the future for the team, the Edmonton area looks to continue to be a consistent source of good athletes from which the U of A can choose. New associate athletics director Wes Moerman has seen a greater amount of dedication bringing in more potential athletes.

"We've seen more recruits coming through and taking tours than I ever have in five years of track," fifth-year Pandas senior Kathryn McCaffrey said.

"This year alone I think I've met more recruits than I've met in my whole other four years."

A strong performance from the

U of A's smaller roster size this season could encourage more of those recruits to choose the U of A. According to Pandas senior McCaffrey, the large number of potential recruits coming from the Edmonton area this season can be attributed to the dedication athletes now put into the sport.

"I think our generation finally discovered track and field. A lot of us just thought it was one of those days you just had in junior high once a year," McCaffrey said.

"All of a sudden, the track culture has appeared in a whole bunch of different schools where people are doing it like club volleyball. They're doing club track and field, which is really cool because a lot more people are getting into it now."

With this discovery, the U of A will head into nationals this weekend and a promising future led by home-grown athletes representing the city of Edmonton.





CHAO ZHANG

# City of Champions name lives on in amateur hockey, not pros



Cameron Lewis  
SPORTS COMMENTARY

Edmonton proudly calls itself the City of Champions due in part to the overwhelming success of our beloved Oilers back in their glory days of the 1980s. But now, the professional hockey franchise that calls this city home is failing to live up to its own mantra. The tradition of champions in Edmonton is being kept alive by the less appreciated younger brothers of the Oilers — the Oil Kings and Golden Bears.

The hockey teams in the City of Champions living up to the name deserve recognition from Edmonton's hockey fanbase. The teams generally don't get the support they deserve due to this city's irrational obsession with the idea of a professional sports team. But the Oil Kings and Golden Bears ice much more exciting products than the Oilers, and deserve more attention from Edmontonians.

Most would say the calibre of the NHL is higher than that of the CHL and CIS, making it more exciting to watch. Half of that statement is true. The skill might be higher, but that doesn't mean the product is better. The NBA has a higher threshold of skill than the NCAA, but most sports fans would argue March Madness is much more exciting to watch than a game featuring a bottom-feeding NBA team.

Support for NCAA basketball

and football in general is off the charts. The NCAA is somewhat of a mixture of the CHL and CIS, as it features nonprofessionals representing a school and gunning for a shot at making it to the show yet it remains astronomically more popular. Sports fans in the U.S. affiliate themselves with both pro and college teams at an equal level, but the same can't be said for Edmontonians who seldom mention the Oil Kings or Golden Bears in the same breath as the Oilers.

Most would say the calibre of the NHL is higher than that of the CHL and CIS, making it more exciting to watch. Half of that statement is true. The skill might be higher, but that doesn't mean the product is better.

Despite not only missing the playoffs for the past six seasons, but also icing one of the worst collections of talent in the NHL, the Edmonton Oilers have managed to fill Rexall Place for seven straight seasons (16,500 capacity attendance) with ticket prices going for \$60 on average.

The Oil Kings, on the other hand, struggle to generate publicity and earn the attention of fans in Edmonton. The other oil in town — the 2011-12 WHL Champions — featuring a blend of up-and-

coming NHL prospects and local Edmonton-grown talent, averaged around 5,000 fans per game last season, with tickets going for about \$16.

The Golden Bears, a team comprised of ex-WHL players that manages to contend for a national championship year after year, has seen average attendance drop each of the last four seasons despite average ticket prices of \$10. For the price of a ticket to an Oilers game in the nosebleeds, one can go to two Golden Bears games and two Oil Kings games, and will probably enjoy better outcomes for the home team than at a lacklustre Oilers game.

The highest average team attendance in the CHL last year goes to the Quebec Ramparts's 11,000 fans, followed by the London Knights and Calgary Hitmen, each with 9,000. Edmonton ranked at the bottom of the list of CHL attendance of cities with both a CHL and NHL team.

It's hard to pinpoint why it is that two teams as successful as the Bears and Oil Kings struggle to gain popularity in a city that's seemingly so mad for hockey. Even with the NHL lockout, neither team saw a notable rise in attendance. The fact that the success of these two teams is overshadowed by the Oilers and their mediocre and expensive on-ice product is incredibly disappointing.

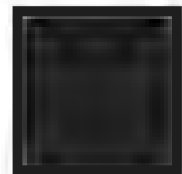
While I'm not trying to tell people not the cheer for the Oilers, the teams that are living up to the City of Champions' name deserve more recognition from the city's residents.

Golden Bears vs. Oilers attendance records							
Season	Team	Overall Record	Average Attendance	Season	Team	Overall Record	Average Attendance
2008/09	U of A Golden Bears	32-11	1,148	2008/09	Edmonton Oilers	38-35-9	16,839
2009/10	U of A Golden Bears	34-8	921	2009/10	Edmonton Oilers	27-47-8	16,839
2010/11	U of A Golden Bears	29-12	835	2010/11	Edmonton Oilers	25-45-12	16,839
2011/12	U of A Golden Bears	27-12	695	2011/12	Edmonton Oilers	32-40-10	16,839

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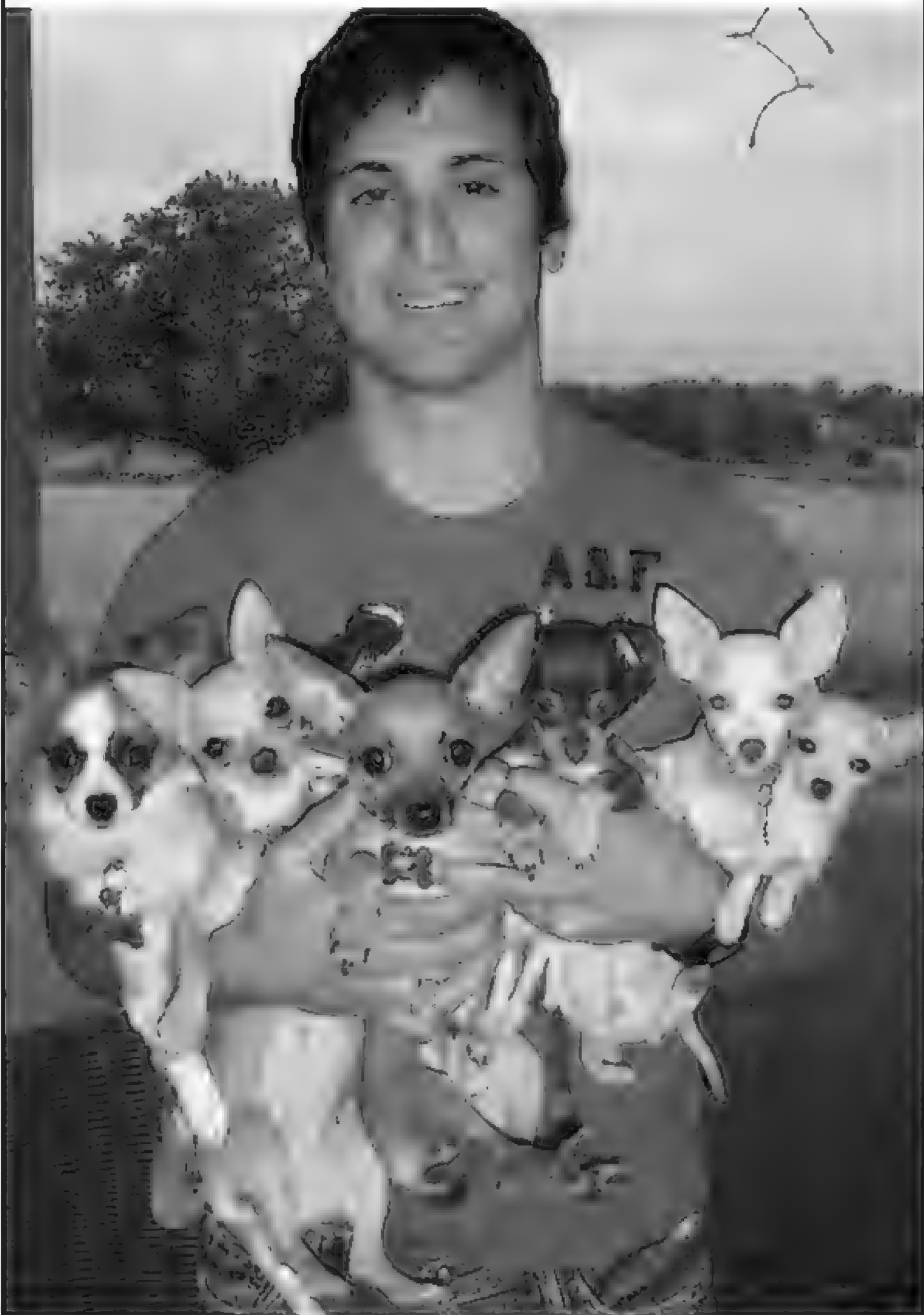
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# U of A wrestling wins national glory for first time in 31 years

Golden Bears wrestling claim first national championship since 1972 while the Pandas leave the CIS championships with a silver medal finish

**WRESTLING ROUNDUP**  
**Andrew Jeffrey**  
SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW\_JEFFREY

When Owen Dawkins joined the U of A wrestling team's staff as their new head coach in 2009, he made a goal to bring national championships home for the U of A's Golden Bears and Pandas teams.

And with the Bears winning their first CIS championship since 1972 this year, that goal has finally been accomplished.

"That's exactly what I told everyone, that within five years we wanted to be CIS champions," Dawkins said. "Our girls accomplished it in two (and) our guys did it in four, so we're well ahead of that."

After impressively winning both the men's and women's CanWest championships this season, the U of A went on to deliver impressive results at nationals, with a CIS championship for the men and a second place finish on the women's side, just behind Brock University.

The Bears racked up four silver medals overall on the men's side of the competition, while the Pandas took home a gold from Molly Bouchard in the 72 kg event, along with two silver medals and a bronze.

The U of A's performance at the tournament represents their new placement as one of the top schools perennially in these competitions with teams such as Western and Brock University, sporting one of the top wrestling teams in the



HARRY DL

country.

The finish is a step up from where the team was before Dawkins came on board. In the 2008-09 season, before Dawkins was hired, the Bears finished nationals in 10th place and the Pandas in 12th. While Dawkins doesn't believe

there was an inherent problem with the U of A's wrestling program before he joined, his expectations for the team are vastly improved from his predecessors in terms of the teams' final results at nationals.

"Their standards weren't as

high. I came in and it was a manner of putting people in that wanted to accomplish the things I wanted to accomplish — the people who saw themselves hopefully going on to win national championships, people who were willing to make that sacrifice to win,"

Dawkins said.

"It wasn't a matter of making changes. I came in and I did what I do. When I was at Lakehead, we created a very strong team there. So I didn't change anything, I just came in and did what I was taught to do. I just followed my path that I've put together that I think has been fairly successful in creating a championship team."

After the successful finish, Dawkins now looks towards recruitment for next season, a process that began in September, but will pick up again just after the end of nationals.

With the wrestling season now over, Dawkins will study video and meet with young athletes to see who would be the best fit for the Bears and Pandas teams.

"I attribute our success to our ability to recruit and to bringing in the right athletes to just create an all-around atmosphere that we want to win," Dawkins said.

While the goal for the U of A will continue to be winning national championships for both teams, Dawkins also has hopes to send more U of A players to compete on a larger stage.

"We want to put guys on the national team. We want to try and put guys going to the Olympics, going to World Championships — that's what ultimately our goal is," Dawkins said.

"We want to win another national championship, but going forward we want to do both. We want to be one of the best teams in the country, club level and university level."

## Pandas soccer alumna reflects on difficulties of playing in less popular sport

**ALUMNI PROFILE**  
**Kate Black**  
SPORTS STAFF • @BLAHBLAHBLACK

Imagine playing a championship game at home: multiple MVP titles to your name and the expectation of a big win rides heavily on your shoulders. While playing your heart out on the field, you look to the fans for encouragement, but only about 20 people sit scattered across the metal bleachers.

Janine Helland, Pandas soccer alumna from 1988-1993, said this is often the reality of being a female athlete in university athletics. Comparing her experience to her husband Jeff Helland and brother-in-law Chris Helland's experiences playing Golden Bears hockey, she said when you aren't playing for one of the U of A's more popular teams, you have to make do without a huge cheering section.

"For me, when I played at the U of A ... you'd have 20 people in the stands. You have your family and friends, and that's who comes to watch you play," she said. "With women's sports, you're still always a rung or two below."

Throughout her career, Helland distinguished herself as one of Canada's greatest soccer players. After being recognized as the U of A's top female athlete in 1992 and 1993 and representing Canada at two FIFA World Cups, she was named to the Canadian Soccer Association's all-time team. The relative setbacks of audience numbers never seemed to slow Helland down.

She explains that despite the low attendance and interest there can be in women's sports, there are still great opportunities for women in sports across North America, especially on a global scale.

The real disparity between male

and female athletes comes in their late 20s, she says, when they're faced with the decision of settling down.

**"You'd have 20 people in the stands. You have your family and friends, and that's who comes to watch you play. With women's sports, you're still always a rung or two below."**

JANINE HELLAND  
PANDAS SOCCER ALUMNA

"That kind of impacts female athletes a lot more — wanting to start a family. And that, I think, is the biggest difference that women face in sport, is that balancing act," she says.

The phrase "balancing act" may be a bit of an understatement for Helland, who currently sits on the National Organizing Committee for the FIFA Women's World Cup Canada 2015 and is a coordinator for KidSport Edmonton, all while raising two athletically active kids of her own.

"When some people see our schedules, they think we're insane. But at the same time, I don't think I'd have it any other way," she said.

In addition to her plethora of responsibilities in the community, Helland continues to play ringette, which she dropped at the age of 20 to pursue soccer exclusively. She's not playing soccer at the moment, but hopes to lace-up her cleats again in the near future.

Helland explains that staying active is an important part of setting an example for her kids. In addition to the lifelong skills such as time-

management and self-confidence, playing sports shows her kids that sport sees no gender as far as participation goes.

"I think it's just as critical for my son to see me being active and participating and playing. (It shows) that it's not just boys who do sports and that continue to do sports, that moms turn into moms just at that point," she said.

Helland admits she's 'lucky' to have the support from her family to continue playing well into motherhood.

From her home life to her extra-curricular activities to her professional life, the world of sports is an essential part of Helland's world, and that's not changing any time soon.

"For those of us who have played at the U of A level or higher, it's just sort of engrained in you," Helland said. "You love it, and you play because you love it."



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# U of A tennis looks to capitalize on chance to qualify for nationals

## TENNIS PREVIEW

### Western Regional Qualifier

Thursday, March 7 - Sunday, March 10  
UBC, Vancouver

**Remi LeBlanc**  
SPORTS WRITER

The U of A tennis team will be fighting tooth and nail this weekend against the top teams in western Canada for their place at the 2013 national championships.

After defeating the University of Calgary in Red Deer and claiming first place at the Simon Fraser University invitational, the team has proven they're a force to be reckoned with heading into the Western Regional Qualifier tournament.

Sophomore Bears player Paul James has no doubts in his team's abilities, and is positive their success thus far will encourage them during westerns.

"I feel that we have a lot of players with a great deal of fortitude, and we are pretty confident in our ability to deal with incoming adversity or negative externalities," he said.

"Our confidence is the most valu-

able asset we have right now."

Some Bears and Pandas players have been able to achieve success this season while juggling full course loads. When finals are approaching for most students, the tennis season is also heating up as spring begins. The team has put in extra hours playing practice matches despite their school schedules.

Also on the Pandas' side is third-year Ambika Mehta, who believes trusting in their training and fighting for every last point will carry them through. Mehta has already seen what she believes to be the U of A's best competition in the west — UBC — which Alberta defeated 53-51 at the Simon Fraser Invitational.

According to James, Mehta, Sanjevic and head coach Russ Sluchinski, UBC has significantly improved and their two new men and women will make this westerns much tougher compared to last year. In the westerns round robin tournament, U of A will play UBC, SFU and UVic. Each match-up consists of 11 matches composed of six singles matches, four doubles and one mixed doubles.

"Historically, we have our best players playing singles, our top three from both men's and

women's," James said.

"Last year we had our top four from each men's and women's also playing doubles and then we had our fifth player from each men's and women's playing the mixed match. But that can change — it is never set in stone.

"Mixed is often called the defining match, but it also can be sometimes irrelevant given the results of the preceding matches. So it really comes down to a last-minute coaching decision."

Each player on the team is allowed to play a maximum of two matches within each match-up. Throughout the season, the U of A has emphasized doubles play in preparation for westerns.

"We feel that (doubles) is an area we can gain an advantage over our opponents," Sluchinski said.

"If we can get off to a quick start in the doubles matches, we will be able to carry forward some momentum into the singles matches where I feel we have very capable players."

The team will be travelling with their top six players from both the Bears and Pandas teams. These 12 players will be eligible to play at nationals this summer, should the team come out in the top two at westerns.

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THANKS FOR APPLYING! PLEASE NOTE ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED FOR INTERVIEWS.

## sports shorts

COMPILED BY **Andrew Jeffrey**

### CIS volleyball championships

CIS volleyball wrapped up their national championships this past weekend with a familiar team at the top of the women's standings.

For the sixth year in a row, the UBC Thunderbirds are the best team in CIS volleyball after defeating the Pandas who leave with silver for the second consecutive year. Top-ranked UBC dispatched with the seventh-ranked U of A in straight sets after the U of A upset the second and third-ranked teams en route to the gold medal match. UBC was led to victory by UBC MVP Lisa Barclay, who scored 16 kills in the final match against Alberta. Barclay was also named a tournament all-star alongside teammates Shanice Marcelle and Brina Derksen-Bergen.

Meanwhile, the host Laval Rouge et Or won gold at the men's national championships the same weekend. With a packed house cheering them on throughout the weekend, the fifth-ranked Rouge et Or defeated the U of A Golden Bears in the first round who had finished first at the end of the season in CIS rankings. Laval then went on to beat the Brandon Bobcats who won the CanWest championship and finally the OUA champion McMaster Marauders in the gold medal match.

Laval middle Jérémie Lortie was named tournament MVP for his strong play leading the team to win gold for the first time on home court, their fourth CIS championship overall. Despite starting their season with a 19 game winning streak, the U of A dropped their quarterfinal matchup, eventually finishing the tournament in fifth place after defeating the two time defending champions from Trinity Western University.

### Canada West hockey championships

Redemption was the theme of both



SUPPLIED: YVES LONGPRE

Canada West hockey championships last weekend as the victors recovered from past setbacks to win their conferences this season.

After being eliminated by Saskatchewan in last year's playoffs, the Bears took revenge in the men's CanWest finals this season, defeating the U of S in three high scoring games. The Bears doubled Saskatchewan's scoring and the weekend's goal differential as a whole ending at 14-7. This success was backed up by goaltender Kurtis Mucha who hadn't allowed a goal in more than 300

minutes of play since January before Saturday's game.

In the women's final, the UBC Thunderbirds upset the Calgary Dinos. After losing the series' first game 4-1, the T-Birds turned things around with a double overtime win in game two and a decisive 5-2 win to end the series. The T-Birds took home the championships only one year after ending their regular season with a single win.

Despite these outcomes, both the men's and women's champions and runners-up will advance to nationals.





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# MLS: An Americanized knockoff or a league to be respected?

MLS has failed in attempts to recreate international soccer fervour

Beautiful game growing in popularity in North America due to MLS



**Cameron Lewis**  
POINT

There are many reasons why Major League Soccer — the Americanized version of professional soccer — is a complete joke, making it nearly impossible to take the league seriously in any way.

This league has absolutely no identity or originality. It exists as some kind of knock-off blend of all the famous European franchises. In MLS you see Real Salt Lake and DC United, the pseudo franchises to Real Madrid and Manchester United, Toronto FC, — where for some reason a football club exists in a league called Major League Soccer, — and Chivas USA, whatever/wherever the hell that is.

Rather than planting their roots in communities, generating a real fanbase and creating their own legacy, MLS franchises insist on mimicking the history and stories behind real clubs around the world in a desperate attempt to make a quick buck.

Despite the fact some of these teams manage to bring in a boatload of cash — through people who want to experience as close to a real life European football game as they can without actually going to Europe — the players’ salaries are completely out of a whack. The minimum salary in the MLS is \$30,000, barely more than someone who works full time at McDonald’s would make in a year, while another player on the team pockets \$10 million.

Everybody is familiar with the whole David Beckham situation with the L.A. Galaxy, when the player, despite being an international star arguably past his prime, still signed to a five-year contract worth over \$30

million, which made him more money than the rest of the Galaxy’s roster combined.

The MLS is a good business because it makes money, but the league and the gameplay itself is an abomination. The league has no identity or originality whatsoever, and it relies on gimmicks mimicked from other, more successful teams and leagues rather than its own originality and legitimacy in order to be successful.

Let’s face it: if this nonsense keeps up, the actual sport of soccer — not just the idea of it — will never truly be appreciated for what it is in the United States.



**Atta Almasi**  
COUNTERPOINT

It’s common knowledge in North America that football is recognized as the sport played with the funny shaped ball by athletes in padding and helmets — not the sport otherwise known as “the beautiful game.”



SUPPLIED

If you told a North American sports fan that the continent’s domestic soccer league, MLS (Major League Soccer), garners more ticket revenue and in-game attendance than two out of the four major sports leagues, namely the NBA and the NHL, they would probably pass out due to lack of oxygen from laughing too hard.

Regardless of perceptions, the truth of the matter is that MLS is a growing force to be reckoned with in Canada and the United States. But there was a time when MLS was considered to be a joke, and not only by non-soccer fans.

Fans of the beautiful game in North America criticized the cartoonish colours of jerseys and logos and the outright blatant second-rate nature of MLS during its first decade or so of existence.

Serious doubts were raised about whether the league could even survive a second decade. But all that changed when the league announced their landmark signing of David Beckham to a five-year contract worth more than \$30 million in 2007.

The league’s fortunes have only improved since then, despite Beckham’s relatively uneventful stay and eventual departure from the league.

Beckham’s arrival, coupled with the introduction of teams in die-hard soccer markets like Toronto and Seattle, gained the league more creditability on which it continues to capitalize to this day.

Professional style kits and an event type climate at matches mimicking the atmosphere in Europe have led to sold-out stadiums and the attraction of big international stars such as Thierry Henry and Freddie Ljungberg, who are looking to close out their illustrious careers in style on American soil to the MLS’s growing fanbase.

Any doubters who still exist would do well to head to YouTube and heed the words of the popular Real Salt Lake chant: “Believe.”



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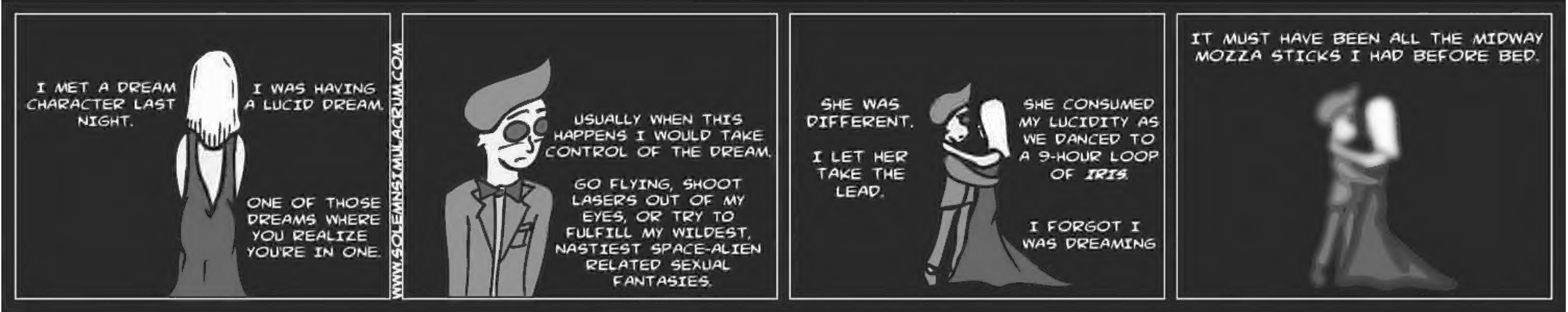
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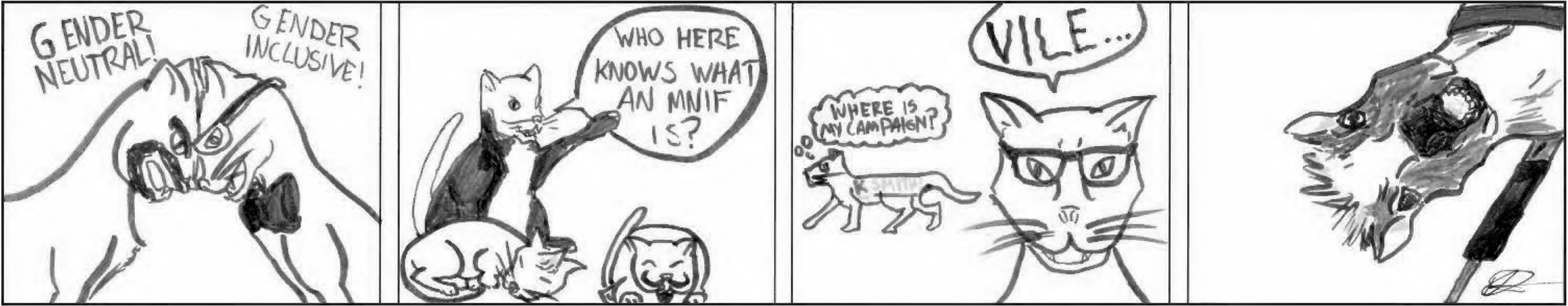
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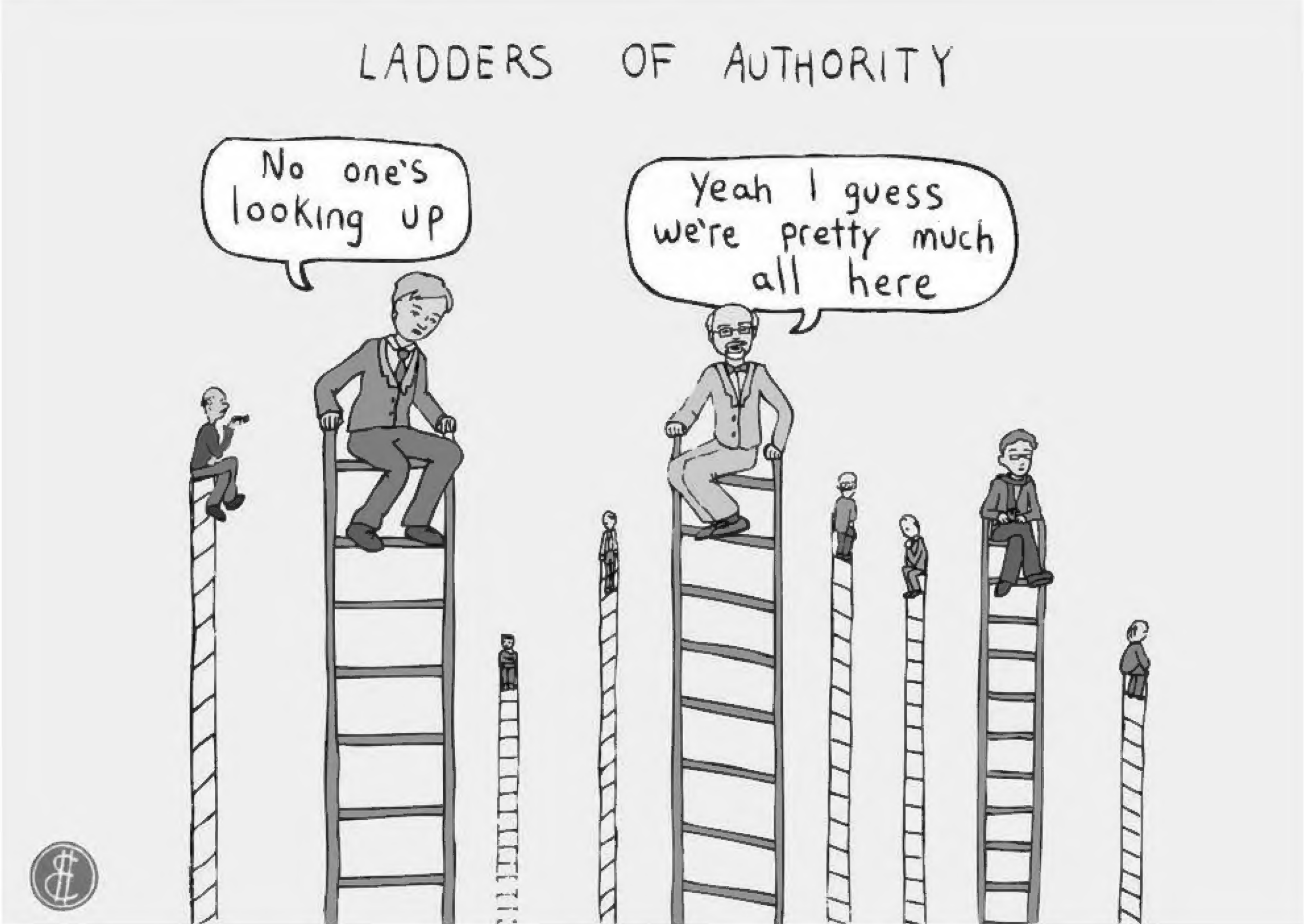
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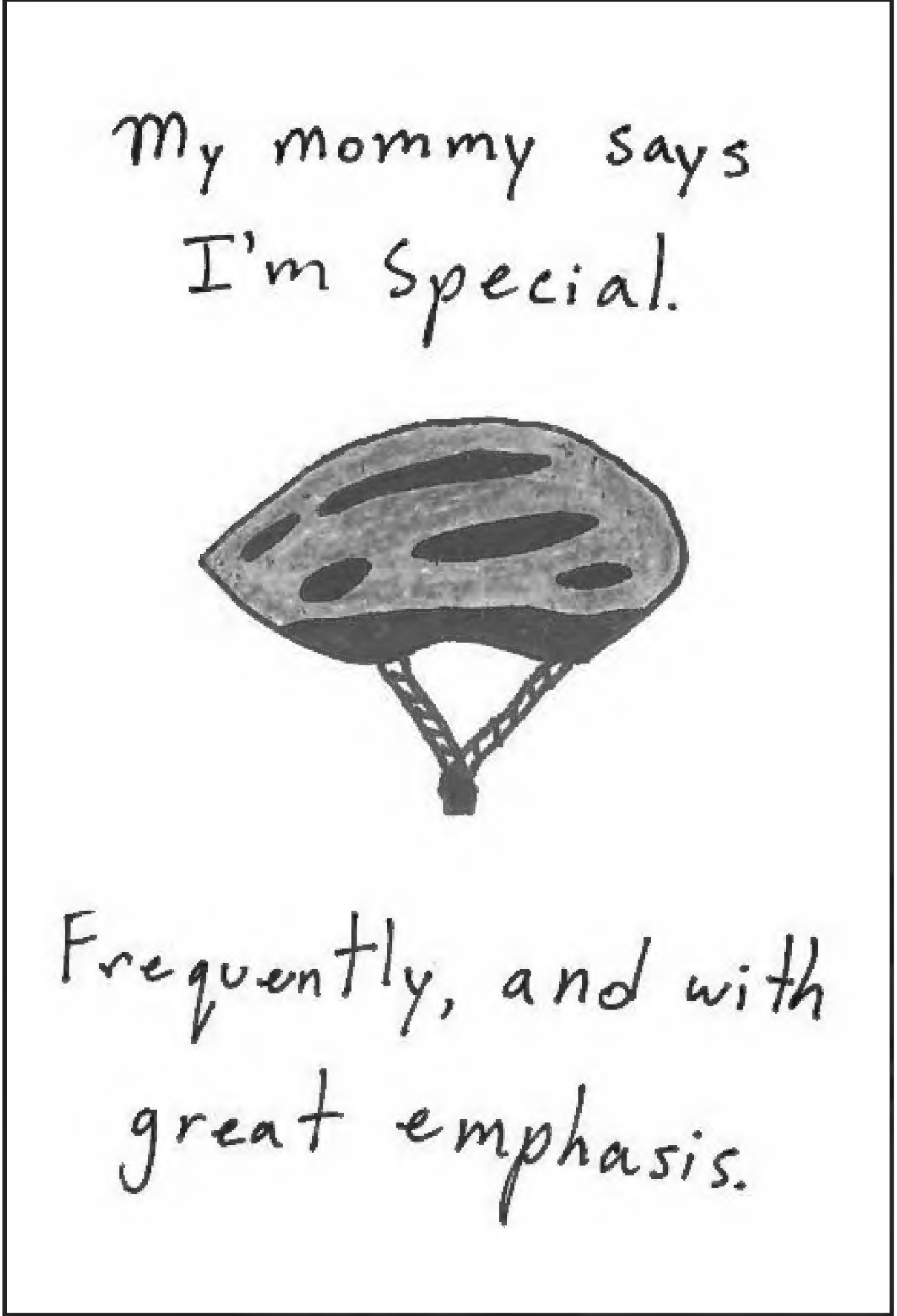
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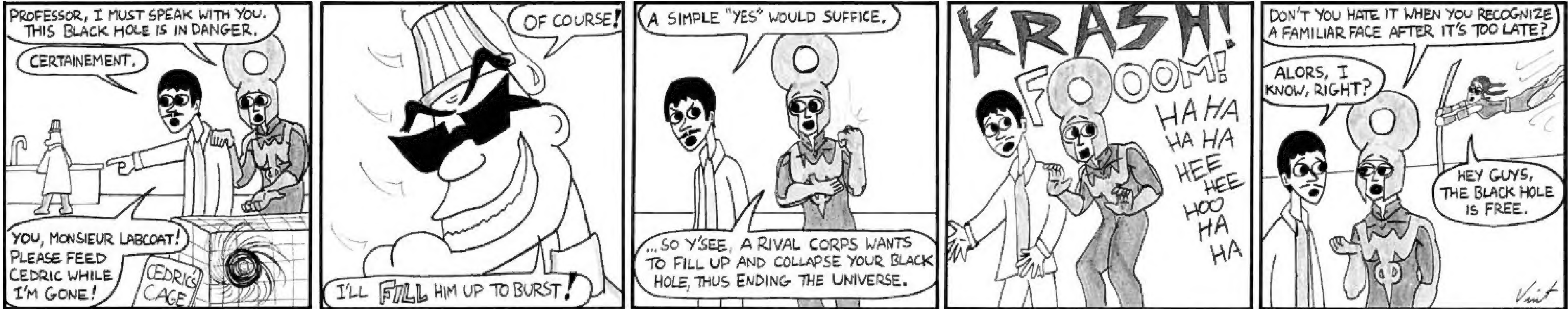




SUBSUB by Stefano Jun



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## ask Dr. Donna

WRITTEN BY Dr. Donna Cave



Dear Dr. Donna: What can I do about the not-so-nice smell coming from down there every now and then? That is, the frontal down-there part! And before you ask — no, I don't have any bacterial, yeast or xanufaodsifpa infections!

Dear "Funkytown": It was good you specified the frontal down-there part, as odour from the behind down-there part might mean you need a bit more fibre in your diet or better wiping skills. You don't tell me if you have guy parts or girl parts or both. Vaginas can indeed get smelly and you will have to stop "playing doctor" long enough to go visit one if you haven't already, and get checked for bacterial overgrowth with a bug called Gardnerella, which can cause a fishy odour. STIs and other gynecologic pathology should also be ruled out. For the benefit of our readers, xanufaodsifpa is in the same category as Bigfoot, the Loch Ness monster and budget increases. About once a year, I pull a manky tampon out of some gal who

didn't realize it was still there weeks after insertion. I will spare you a description of the smell of that procedure, but I stand by last week's column advice in that Mojitos help with PTSD. Other doctors favor scotch — for themselves, not the patient. Douching is not recommended, even if you do want your bottom to smell like Country Flowers or Summer's Eve (what scent is that, pray tell?). The skin in the groin area is moist and hairy, and our skin bacteria snack on the sweat and break it down into odiferous compounds. Using antibacterial soap and trimming the hair shorter helps, but I would really advise against using a safety razor "down there," as most trim the hair too closely and ingrown hairs are a real problem. Instead of "playing doctor," spice up your sex life and play "barber" for a change: try a men's beard trimmer on the lowest setting.

Dear Dr. Donna: I grew into my "womanly" form a little too quickly for my body as a teen, and now, at 23, I have really long, dark, stretch marks on my hips. I hate them! Is there any way to fade or get rid of them?

Dear "Stretch": You can likely curse your family, if you don't have cause already,

as the tendency to develop stretch marks is often genetic unless caused by large weight gains or rare metabolic conditions such as Cushing's disease. All sexes can get stretch marks from rapid growth in puberty. Stretch marks — or striae, if you want to be scientific about it — do fade with time, but never really disappear. If the striae are still active, they are red. Studies show benefit from treatment with a popular acne cream, tretinoin, also known as retinoic acid. The cream is used sparingly at night for three to six months, and can have some skin-irritating properties. It must be acknowledged, though, that there has never been a good study where patients apply tretinoin to only one half of their body to truly sort out its efficacy, so it may or may not work for you. If the striae are already white, you can still try the cream, but there is some evidence that laser therapy may help further, although not possible in darker skinned patients. This would involve a visit to a cosmetic dermatologist, and significant finances. See my comment regarding budgetary increases above.

Health and Wellness questions? E-mail me at [askdrdonna@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:askdrdonna@gateway.ualberta.ca) or click the link to Ask Dr Donna at [thegatewayonline.ca](http://thegatewayonline.ca)!

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